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Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

ECONOMIC COMMISION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-fourth session of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
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Item 6 of the provisional agenda**

LC/NAIROBI

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION FOR UNTACDA II

* E/ECA/TPCW. 0/1/Rev.1
** E/ECA/CM.15/1/Rev.1

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION FOR UNTACDA II

1. On 20 December 1988, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 43/179 in support of a second United Nations Decade for Transport and Communications in Africa for the years 1991-2000. This was a culmination of the efforts made by the African governments in support of the decision taken by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its sixth meeting in March 1988 held at Kinshasa, Zaire. That decision, expressed in the Kinshasa resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 was taken following an indepth evaluation of the results and impact of the first Decade programme on the economic development of Africa in general, and on the development of transport and communications in particular.

2. It will be recalled that the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1977 upon the request of the ECA Conference of Ministers, expressed in Resolution 291(XIII) adopted in February 1977 at Kinshasa, in order to highlight Africa's special needs in these sectors. The first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held in May 1979, adopted the objectives and strategy of the Decade. The global objective was the establishment of an integrated transport and communications network throughout the continent with particular emphasis on harmonization, co-ordination and modernization primarily for the purpose of supporting the development of key sectors such as industry, agriculture and trade. These objectives were to be realized at regional, subregional and national levels with the main burden being borne by the African countries themselves.

3. The evaluation of the first Decade showed that ten years was hardly sufficient time to complete so gigantic a task as was envisaged during the Decade. As a consequence, a great deal of work will have to be continued beyond the end of the first Decade. Furthermore, new challenges including those arising from technological change, some of which were not foreseen at the time of the launching of the first Decade, have emerged and will also need attention in the years to come.

4. The resolutions calling for a second UNTACDA, have proposed that the two years 1989 and 1990 should be set aside as a period of preparation for the second Decade programme. This proposal was based on the most important lesson to be drawn from the first Decade, namely that the success of the programme was compromised by the lack of advance planning prior to its declaration.

5. Spurred on by the outcome of the Kinshasa meeting, the ECA commenced activities towards the preparation of the programme. On one front, the Kinshasa resolution was presented to the ECA Conference of Ministers meeting in Niamey, Niger in April 1988 which endorsed it by adopting resolution 639 (XXIII). This was endorsed in turn by ECOSOC in its resolution 1988/67 of July 1988, and by the UN General Assembly in its resolution 43/179 of 20 December 1988.

6. Meanwhile, the Secretariat prepared a position paper on the global objectives and strategy for the second Decade and circulated it in October 1988 among all members of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee (IACC) of the UNTACDA programme as a basis for preparing the programm of UNTACDA II. Later on, the Secretariat of the Commission organized the twelfth meeting of the IACC in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 14 to 17 March 1989 to formally start the preparation of UNTACDA II programme. The report of this meeting, document E/ECA/TCD/61 attached, contains details on the current status of the preparation for the UNTACDA II programme. In short, the twelfth IACC meeting discussed at length ababout a) the objectives and strategies and b) the guidelines for the programme of UNTACDA II. Ten global objectives as well as several sectoral and subsectoral objectives have been retained; also, some ideas relating to guidelines (including criteria for the selection of the Decade projects, mechanisms for the transfer of projects from UNTACDA I to UNTACDA II, the role of various actions) have been proposed. It was agreed that the report of the IACC meeting (including the objectives and strategy and the guidelines attached herewith) would be examined again by each institution, that comments (if any) from IACC members would be sent to ECA on 17 May 1989 latest so as to allow ECA to prepare an updated version of this important document.

7. Two key meetings are scheduled for the rest of this year: the thirteenth meeting of the IACC in June 1989 to finalize draft policy document on the programme; and the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, to be held in November 1939 in Morocco, to review the draft policy document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (IACC) ON THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA (UNTACDA)

Addis Ababa, (Ethiopia) 14 - 17 March 1989

A. ORGANIZATION

1. The twelfth Meeting of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee on the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 14 to 17 March 1989.

B. PARTICIPATION

2. Representatives of the following United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and African intergovernmental organizations took part: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Bank (IBRD), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Universal Postal Union (UPU), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Maritime Organization (IMO), African Airlines Association (AFRAA), African Development Bank (ADB), Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Organization of African Unity (OAU), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA), International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Union of African Railways (UAR), Union of National Radio and Television Organizations in Africa (URTNA).

3. Representatives of the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) and the Arab Maritime Transport Academy (AMTA) also attended as observers.

C. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting was opened by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, who was also chairman.

5. In his opening statement Professor Adedeji recalled that the first United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa had started without precedent and had thus called for a great deal of innovation. Indeed, the IACC had been created without any mandate. The Committee, however, had ten years experience and it ought to build upon that but not replicate or routinize the first Decade.

6. Professor Adedeji reminded the meeting that the challenge facing Africa during UNTACDA II was greater than had been the case at the time of launching UNTACDA I. The degree of optimism of ten years previously was no longer there. The African economic crisis had erupted immediately after the launching of the first Decade and transport and communications was one of the key elements for solving the crisis. It would not only show a lack of imagination but would also be a betrayal of Africa if the agencies only continued to do exactly what had been done during the first Decade.

7. The UNTACDA I problem had been the subject of several evaluations among them those by the JIU and UNDP. Evaluations were very good things since it was through them that one knew where one had gone wrong. He hoped that this the first meeting under the auspices of UNTACDA II would identify some of the features that would distinguish UNTACDA II from UNTACDA I.

8. Professor Adedeji addressed himself to the economic, social and political environment in which UNTACDA II would operate. The economic problems of Africa were still urgent and were more complex than ten years previously . There was no doubt, however, but that the Lagos Plan of Action was still the basis for any African collective endeavours such as UNTACDA. When UNTACDA commenced African governments were poor but not as poor as now, they were in debt but not as indebted as now; it had been assumed that they could make big investments and indeed they did. But the time had now come to give very serious thought to the question of resource availability. Receipts from export earnings had diminished considerably and some governments were unable to meet their obligations and that was beginning to affect UNTACDA. Maintenance was not being carried out because of lack of resources. It would be wrong to think of programmes requiring great investments without taking these realities into account. Maintenance was crucial and in telecommunications the lack of it had led to the deterioration of valuable equipment.

9. The other side of the coin was what could be assumed about the availability of external resources. It would be necessary to review the experience of past resource mobilization efforts such as the Technical Consultative Meetings and the Co-financing Meetings and reflect on what those experiences meant for UNTACDA II. Right at the outset of UNTACDA the United Nations Secretary-General had convened a Pledging Conference in New York which had only raised $150,000. Thereafter there was so much despondencey that the Decade might just as well have been terminated right there and then. In view of the past experience, the Committee ought to ponder the question whether the next Decade should be geared to external financial support or to what African Governments could finance themselves.

10. The next question was a sensitive one and pertained to the fact that in the past some agencies seemed to have been concerned more with raising their own flag than with serving African governments. While it was understandable that each organization would want to show its achievements, it should, however, not be overdone. Africa's interest ought to be put first, rather than quibbling over whether a certain task should be performed by one organization or another. Greater commitment was required from the organizations. The Executive Secretary wondered how many agencies had provided additional resources in their own budgets for Africa's need. It seemed that some agencies saw the Decade as an opportunity to receive rather than give more resources.

11. African IGO's had not been very actively involved during UNTACDA I and he hoped that would change in UNTACDA II. It would not be right to have parallel programmes. If there was a Decade programme, everybody ought to be committed to it. There could not be one programme in Addis Ababa and other in other capitals of the world. A corollary to this was that there should be a consensus on the content of the UNTACDA II programme so that it could receive the support of all and thus ensure that requests for financing, whether it be to UNDP or to bilateral donors, would be consistent. It was fortunate that the Committee had had the experience of the previous ten years which, if it was applied, could make UNTACDA II exciting. The Executive Secretary concluded by saying he had spoken frankly and wanted everyone else to be free to speak frankly. He requested the members of the Committee to prepare a checklist of what to do and, even more importantly, what mistakes to avoid in UNTACDA II.

D. ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 2)

12. The meeting adopted the following agenda

1. Opening of the meetings
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Objectives and strategy of UNTACDA II
4. Guidelines for the preparation and implementation of UNTACDA II programme
5. Date and venue of the next meeting
6. Any other business
7. Adoption of the report
8. Closure

13. The meeting also adopted the following work schedule

Tuesday 17th	10.00 - 13.00 hrs;	15.00 - 18.00 hrs
Wednesday 18th	09.00 - 13.00 hrs;	15.00 - 18.00 hrs
Thursday 19th and Friday 20th		

Objectives and strategy of UNTACDA II (agenda item 3)

14. A representative of the ECA secretariat introduced document DEC/TRANSCOM/67/Rev. 1 which contained the proposals of ECA regarding the concept and focus of the second Decade, its global objectives, goals and strategy. The presentation emphasized agriculture as the basis for self-sustaining economic development in Africa, hence, the insistence in the Lagos Plan of Action that programmes of support sectors such as transport and communications must, first and foremost, serve to enhance development of food

and agriculture in Africa. Thus, the aim of physical integration of Africa should be based on the economic poles of production and consumption. Such an approach would necessarily imply a slight shift in emphasis from regional projects as being the highest priority to national networks being the starting point in order to link them into an integrated network. These objectives may further be grouped into four categories as follows: completion of pan-African networks, facilitation of traffic by the reduction of non-physical barriers, the promotion of improved management and operations, and the establishment of manufacturing industries.

15. Other agencies that had prepared papers also presented them as follows:

ICAO

16. The paper emphasized the importance of regional integration and called for a realistic assessment of the capacities of the various agencies and IGO's and the apportionment of responsibilities accordingly. The paper then went to give an account of ICAO's plans for furthering the development of civil aviation in Africa from the agency's own resources.

PATU

17. The PATU paper highlighted the need to have short- and long-term objectives as everything could not be done in a period of ten years. Furthermore, there ought to be decentralization in the execution of projects. Finally, it was the paper's contention that during UNTACDA I not enough attention had been paid to telecommunications, a situation that needed redressing in UNTACDA II.

World Bank

18. The importance of regional integration was recognized as a basis for fostering regional trade in particular through efficient transit and shipping; nurturing African markets for transport services; improving transport policies and programmes by exchanges, research and adhesion to common goals; and strengthening capabilities for training and human resources development. The UNTACDA II programme should be based on key issues in the fields of transport and communications and those issues that could benefit from regional co-operation ought to be identified. An attempt should also be made to work out the best institutional arrangements for implementing the Decade programme. A starting point could be reviewing past efforts and building upon them. Thus, could follow new approaches to solving transport and communications problems in Africa and drawing a well-targeted Decade programme which would be able to make a big difference in African transport and communications. In order to do so, it should be based on a strong and sustained consensus. In the final analysis the success of the Decade would depend on the support it would be able to draw from its constituency, namely, African governments, transport enterprises, scholars and analysts engaged in the transport and communications sectors, and multilateral development agencies and donors. The paper concluded by proposing a priority agenda for the transport sector as follows:

- road rehabilitation and maintenance;
- structural reform of air transport;
- efficiency improvements in ports;
- urban transport services;
- road safety;
- key policy issues concerning the revision of restrictive prac in respect of entry and freight allocation in road tran services;
- secure and efficient intra-regional transport and tr operations;
- the institutional structure for transport planning and p development.

UNDP

19. The UNDP paper proposed the following objectives for UNTACDA II.

(i) to pursue an integrated transport and communications planning;

(ii) to pursue policies for increased transport and communic efficiency, particularly as far as the maintenance rehabilitation of existing infrastructures;

(iii) to facilitate international traffic and communications;

(iv) to develop transport and communication including safety environment for improved rural and urban living conditions;

(v) to rationalize energy use in transport and communications;

(vi) to develop channels for technology transfer in transpor communications.

20. As far as strategy is concerned, it foresaw ECA continuing its r lead agency for the co-ordination and implementation of the Decade in with the set objectives and institutional arrangements. In this regard, role should be to ensure coherence and proper co-ordination of regiona subregional preinvestment programmes. As a matter of principle al transport and communications projects of preinvestment nature and regional and subregional vocation financed and/or executed by organizati the UN system, including the World Bank, should obtain the advice before their approval.

21. Several agencies then took part in the debate and raised the following issues:

- the financing of the programme;
- manpower development. African labour was adequate but the productivity was low. Support should be given to training institutions in Africa as well as those outside Africa that are involved in training Africans;
- the need to address technological changes in transport and communications;
- improvement of management of transport and communications enterprises;
- the importance of meteorology for various sub-sectors;
- the need to continue certain projects commenced during UNTACDA I and now ongoing;
- according very high priority to maintenance and rehabilitation of existing assets concurrently with programmes of expansion. Otherwise the status quo of the most underdeveloped systems among all the regions of the world would be maintained;
- adequate balance between transport and communications and equitable distribution of financing;
- the publicity that needs to be given to the Decade;
- manufacture of transport and communications equipment and spare parts;
- the need to define short- and long-term objectives;
- facilitation of inter-country traffic;
- survival of African airlines in the face of the changing international environment and the implementation of the Yamousoukro Declaration;
- linkage between sectors, especially between telecommunications and others;
- improvement of planning skills and capacity for African transport and communications services;
- road safety;

- importance of food security;

- increasing the competitiveness of African transport, especially shipping and air transport industries.

22. A drafting committee consisting of ECA, OAU, ADB, World Bank, UNDP and UAR was established to produce a document defining the global and sectoral objectives. The document appears in Annex I to this report.

Guidelines for the preparation and implementation of UNTACDA II programme (agenda item 4)

23. A representative of the ECA secretariat once again introduced the part of document DEC/TRANSCOM/67/Rev. 1 dealing with this item. The presentation dwelt on the fact that the programme should be oriented towards corridors of production and consumption; hence core projects that could reasonably be expected to be implemented within the ten-year period ought to be identified. Since the programme would be implemented by many interested groups, it was essential that these groups agreed on a strategy to be adopted for the programme. Based on the experience gained in implementing the first Decade programme, it was possible to provide an outline of this strategy. In order to ensure the relevance of the projects, the various specialized regional/subregional organizations and U.N. agencies as well as the subregional economic organs (e.g. ECOWAS, PTA, ECCAS) should be intimately involved in the design, preparation and execution of the programme. The projects included in the Decade programme should be consistent with and complementary to the priorities and programmes of the countries as well as of the relevant subregional organizations.

24. The ECA paper being the only one presented under this agenda item, the chairman requested the participants to focus on who would be responsible for preparing the programme, the methodology thereof, and the nature of the programme.

25. In the ensuing debate the participants took the floor and expressed their views on the subject. The feeling was expressed that the guidelines should insist on the concept of additionality so that the Decade would bring about extra results over and above what would be achieved in its absence. The question of projects to be carried over from UNTACDA I was also raised with the admonition to ensure that such a carry-over programme was not so large as to make the UNTACDA II programme unwieldy. It would therefore be essential to define criteria for the acceptance of projects into the programme. In this connexion, it might not be desirable to entrust the setting up of such criteria to ECA as the lead agency but to involve representatives of governments.

26. The discussion also dealt with the role of ECA as the lead agency and those of the governments, the IGO's, U.N. specialized agencies and multilateral development institutions and donors. After an extensive debate, a drafting committee was instituted and charged with the responsibility of drawing up a paper on the guidelines. The Committee was composed of ECA, ICAO, ITU, UNCTAD, ECOWAS, AFRAA and UNDP and its document appears in Annex II.

Date and venue of the next meeting (agenda item 5)

27. A number of activities were required in order to prepare the documents which the Committee would submit to the seventh meeting of Experts and the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning. As the meetings had been scheduled to take place in Morocco from 6 to 10 November and 13 to 15 November 1989 for the Experts and the Ministers respectively, the activities to be undertaken were programmed as follows:-

Before 17 May, Committee members to send their comments on the two documents relating to the objectives and strategy and the guidelines for the preparation of the programme for the Second Decade to ECA;

From 29 to 30 July, a meeting of the Committee in Addis Ababa to finalize the two documents;

By 15 July, at the latest, dispatch of the documents for the Experts' and the Ministers' meetings to member States.

Any other business (agenda item 6)

28. No business was introduced under this agenda item.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 7)

29. It was considered not necessary to adopt the two documents pertaining to objectives and strategy and guidelines for programme preparation as it had already been agreed that the Committee members would take them with them to their respective headquarters for closer study and subsequent comment, with the definitive documents being adopted during the following meeting of the IACC.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 8)

30. The meeting was closed by Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of ECA and Chairman of the meeting who thanked the participants for the excellent work they had done and the long hours they had put into it. He impressed upon them the need to forward their organizations' comments to ECA by the agreed deadline of 17 May so that ECA would be able to finalize the two documents and combine them into a single one emanating from the IACC.

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES FOR UNTACDA II

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

To establish an integrated transport and communications system as a basis for the physical integration of Africa, improve efficiency and facilitate national and international traffic, so as to foster trade and the achievement of self-sustaining economic development as called for in the Lagos Plan of Action (1980), APPER (1985) and UNPAERD (1986).

OBJECTIVE 1

Promote regional economic integration, and trade movement of persons through phased and balanced programmes of infrastructure and capacity expansion, operational efficiency and service quality improvement.

(A) Long-term:

Steady expansion of intra-regional networks, especially at the subregional levels, so as to permit the effective development of good present and potential production areas with consumption centres and export points on the basis of nationally agreed programme.

(B) Areas of Concentration in the short- and Medium -term:

(i) Facilitation of intra-African and external traffic by:

(a) Early implementation of existing bilateral, subregional and regional agreements relating to technical standards, operating and documentation procedures as well as joint financing arrangements;

(b) Wider ratification and early application of relevant UN and other international agreements;

(c) Development of new agreements where these are necessary and of priority.

(ii) Selected investments in expansion and upgrading of links in existing regional and subregional networks in order to realize the full potential of these networks, which are consistent with regional priority needs and resource availability.

OBJECTIVE 2

Rehabilitation, Upgrading and Maintenance of the most critical elements of the existing infrastructure and equipment so as to improve efficiency and utilization, as well as prolong their economic life.

A. Long-term

(i) Complete by the year 2000 the backlog of infrastructure rehabilitation and equipment replacement tasks that has built up over the past years;

(ii) Develop efficient and sustainable maintenance capacities and practices that make effective use of local skills, manufacturing capacities, contractors and, in the case of rural infrastructure networks, locally based organizations and institutions.

B. Areas of concentration in the short- and medium-term:

(i) Develop well prepared national programmes of priority rehabilitation, upgrading and equipment replacement.

(ii) Strengthen institutional arrangements for sound maintenance planning, budgetting, performance monitoring and practices.

(iii) Increase efforts at resource mobilization from external and internal sources.

OBJECTIVE 3

Human Resource Development and Training: To improve the quality and availability of personnel at all levels for proper management and operations of transport and communications through training, enhanced motivation by establishing appropriate incentive schemes, and proper utilization of local skills by inrpoved recruitment procedures.

A. Long-term

(i) Establish transport and communications management institutes for all regions.

(ii) Develop local capabilities to plan, manage and operate transport and communications systems in Africa more efficiently.

B. Areas of Concentration in short-and medium-term

(i) Upgrading and maintaining the standards of existing national and regional training institutions.

(ii) Establishment in each organization/enterprise of appropriate incentive schemes so as to motivate, develop and retain competent staff at all levels.

(iii) Strengthen existing specialized African IGO's so that they can better assist the African governments in their development efforts.

(iv) Increase in-house training in major transport organizations and enterprises.

(v) Increase the number of "twinning" arrangements between African enterprises and transport and communications training institutions with more experienced organizations elsewhere.

(vi) Establish African Transport and Communications Management Studies Centres for all regions.

OBJECTIVE 4

Improvement of efficiency in Transport and Communications Enterprises so as to improve their competitiveness and financial viability.

A. Long-term

(i) Improvement of management efficiency and capacity

(ii) Development of legal framework for enterprises.

B. Areas of concentration in the short- and medium-term:

(i) Establish incentive schemes for personnel.

(ii) Introduce cost reduction measures.

(iii) Harmonization and application of tariffs including preferential tariffs for large users.

(iv) Develop alternative energy sources for transport and communications equipment.

(v) Develop contract plans between enterprises and governments, where appropriate, to allow greater managerial autonomy and accountability.

OBJECTIVE 5

Establishment of Information Systems on Transport and Communications as a basis for analysis and better management and planning of investment.

A. Long-term

(i) Promote establishment of information systems directed at market demands, costs and conditions of infrastructure development.

B. Areas of concentration in the medium - and short -term

(i) Establishment of a regional data bank on transport and communications development.

(ii) Establishment of management information systems at enterprises and organizations to improve management.

OBJECTIVE 6

Development of manufacturing capabilities in order to cope with the rapid changes in technology and market forces in transport and communications, and to reduce cost and requirements for foreign exchange by local manufacture of some spare parts, components and equipment.

A. Long-term

(i) Encourage member States to enact policies at the level of national and subregional economic groupings so as to create an enabling environment for investment (foreign, private, public) in manufacturing enterprises and transfer of technology that would transcend the limitations of national economies and benefit from the economies of scale of the subregional markets.

(ii) Establish research and development centres (possibly at the regional training institutions or selected universities).

(iii) Develop indigenous technology

B. Areas of concentration in short-and medium-term

(i) Undertake feasibility studies for manufacture of selected transport and communications components and equipment.

(ii) Initiate basic research in selected areas and institutions.

(iii) Carry out total survey of and widely publicize the capacity and type of manufactures currently available in Africa.

OBJECTIVE 7

Improved Transport Safety and Environmental Conditions to restrain the human, social and economic losses resulting from accidents and spillages of hazardous and polluting materials associated with the expected increases in passenger and freight transportation activities.

A. Long-term

(i) Increase awareness of safety and environmental implications of projects during planning and design stages.

(ii) Encourage African governments to adhere to the international conventions.

(iii) Produce and apply the African Highway Code.

B. Areas of Concentration in short- and medium-term

(i) Establish national traffic councils and provide them with adequate funding.

(ii) Organize African regional/subregional seminars and workshops to exchange experience.

(iii) Strengthen driver training and testing programmes

(iv) Improve vehicle testing facilities and methods.

OBJECTIVE 8

Improvement of transport and communications in rural areas as the major national poles of economic growth.

A. Long-term

(i) Develop more efficient and effective rural transport infrastructure and services through greater use of self-help and locally based solutions.

(ii) Develop appropriate technology for non-motorized transport alternatives.

B. Areas of Concentration in the medium - and short-term

(i) Encourage national planners to accord priority to better planning, construction and maintenance of rural systems.

(ii) Identify current and potential areas of economic production growth and develop plans to link them to the national transport and communications networks.

OBJECTIVE 9

Improvement of urban transport to meet the needs of the rapidly growing urban population.

A. Long-term

(i) Increase the efficiency and financial viability of urban transport activities, including the provision of greater accessibility to employment opportunities for low income group.

B. Areas of concentration in the medium- and short-term

(i) Introduce measures to increase taxes on vehicle use and ownership.

(ii) Introduce controls on traffic flow patterns

(iii) Develop better and effective traffic management measures.

STRATEGY

In drawing up the programme for the Second Decade, full account should be taken of the macro-economic environment in which the programme fits. This environment defines the constraints within which the programme will be implemented. Thus, for the success of the programme, the following strategy is proposed.

1. Focus

The programme should be focussed on the key problem areas which require regional/subregional co-operation for their solution.

2. Flexibility

A reasonable flexibility should be built into the programme to allow correction and re-orientation as needed during its implementation. It is proposed that a review of the programme be carried out every two or three years in addition to a mid-term in-depth evaluation in 1995.

3. Promotion of the programme

During the period of the Decade a good promotion of the programme and activities must be made in order to publicize the Decade. It is suggested to use all means of communications: URTNA; news letters; publications; press conferences at launching; ICO's and national UNDP Res Reps;

4. Survey of transport and communications in Africa

Before the launching of the Decade a general survey on transport and communications in Africa must be conducted in order to have the status of development.

5. Annual Report on transport and communications

An annual report must be prepared indicating the program done in the field of transport regarding the objectives to be achieved.

6. Multisectoral approach

The programme must be designed in order to respond to some demands i.e. agriculture, mines, population, industry etc.

7. Resource Mobilization

A committee of resource mobilization should be set-up in order to mobilize more resources. A study of the mobilization mechanisms of the first Decade and the results thereof should be undertaken. This study might provide the degree to which financial additionality has occurred during UNTACDA I as well as the extent to which financial additionality is a valid concept for UNTACDA II.

8. Steering Committee should be established to develop criteria for project selection and classification and determination of a core programme based on the principle of additionality. Composed of three (3) high level African professionals in the field assisted by two (2) recognized international advisers, the committee will submit their proposals to the IACC for approval by the Conference of Ministers.

9. National Co-ordination Committee (NCC) on UNTACDA should be set up in each country (a la RASCOM) in order to coordinate a national development programme between and within transport and communications sectors, and act as focal points for the regional/subregional programme. UNDP country representative should participate in this committee.

10. Responsibility for Projects

While the national governments will have the responsibility to identify, formulate, negotiate finance and implement national projects in both investment and preinvestment need while the IGO will have the same responsibilities in respect of selected subregional investment projects, more and more preinvestment subregional projects should be assigned to subregional intergovernmental specialized African organizations for implementation. This means in practical terms decentralization.

11. Collection of information may be achieved by requiring that project submissions include statistics on sector development in the country as well as information on related projects. Additionally, the NCC should be required to provide regular information on projects and statistics on development indicators.

ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

A. Long-term objectiv:

- Removal of the physical and non-physical barriers to intra-Afr trade and travel and improvement of services in the roads and transport sector.

B. Short- and medium term areas of concentration

(i) Completion of the proven intercountry road network to link ar of production to areas of consumption at national, subregi regional and international levels;

(ii) Rehabilitation, reconstruction and maintenannce of exi networks;

(iii) Facilitation of traffic on existing intercountry road link having member States accede to the existing bilate multilateral, and international accords pertaining to the transport subsector;

(iv) Harmonization of the various national highway codes, signs/signals and axle loads so as to render intercountry tra as easy as possible;

(v) Human resources and institutional development to build up capacity and enhance the manpower, in order to improve operation, organisation and management of roads and road trans institutions;

(vi) Creation of awareness on road safety and protection of environment;

(vii) Improvement of road transport infrastructure and services in u and rural areas;

(viii) Improvement of the provision of foreign currency for purchase of new buses and trucks and spare parts promotion of policies that would enhance the viabilit the road transport industry.

RAILWAYS AND RAIL TRANSPORT

A. Long-term objectives:

(i) Improvement of operational efficiency of railways so as to improve their financial viability and reduce their burden on national budgets,

(ii) Achievement of acceptable levels of rolling stock and infrastructure availability and utilisation rates on the basis of phased programmes agreed for the major national railway systems and also on the oasis of contract and corporate plans.

Short and medium-term areas of concentration are as following:

(i) Restructuring of the railways based on appropriate time-phased programmes.

(ii) Strengthening of railways management performance.

(iii) Review, of technical, operational, and commercial studies which have been conducted by IGO's, UAR, and subregional organisations to ascertain their validity and relevance to the development of railways in Africa, during UNTACDA II and beyond.

(iv) Strengthening of existing national and subregional institutions for training of railway personnel, i.e. review of their curricula, training of trainers, support to the development of their training equipments and facilities etc.

(v) Establishment, in various railways, of a UAR-based costing model to be derived from recommendations of SSATP costing study.

(vi) Establishment of management information systems, for railways, which do not have them, based on results and recommendations of SSATP studies.

(vii) Establishment of an African railway data bank based on results and recommendations of studies for the development of a railways data base to be conducted under SSATP.

(viii) Increase shares both domestic and in long haul transit traffics through strong competitive marketing and service quality measures;

(ix) Revision of existing railway legislations where appropriate to improve governmental/railway relationships and allow greater managerial autonomy and accountability.

(x) Promotion of inter-railway working agreements to facilitate the smooth operations of international traffic.

(xi) Strengthening of the UAR.

AIR TRANSPORT

A. Long-term objective

The long term objective for the air transport sector is to establish a climate of cooperation and solidarity as stipulated in the Yamoussoukro Declaration and improve air transport facilities and services in Africa.

B. Short and medium term areas of activity

1. Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration and improvement of the capacity of air navigation enterprises.

(a) Improvement of the management of airlines and air navigation enterprises.

Action in this area will focus on:

- Improvement of the financial situation of air transport and air navigation enterprises in order increase their efficiency and make them more competitive and cost-effective.

In this regard it is necessary to:

(i) Develop intensive training programmes aimed at training qualified and skilled personnel,

(ii) Drawing up contract-plans between the enterprises and governments;

(iii) Retain skilled personnel in the enterprises;

(iv) Assist civil aviation and airport authorities.

(b) Integration of airlines and restructuring of civil aviation authorities and airport management enterprises.

Activities in this area will focus on:

Strengthening of common facilities which exist already and the establishmnt of new airlines, either on subregional basis, on the basis of economic groupings or on the basis of affinity.

Assistance should also be provided to the States with a view to the restructuring of airport management enterprises and civil aviation authorities.

(c) Establishment of financial institutions

To facilitate the acquisition of flight equipment, group purchase of equipment will be encouraged and an African aircraft leasing and financing company will be set up.

(d) Adoption of policies on tariffs, the computerized reservation system and traffic rights.

Within the framework of the regrouping of airlines, common policies will be formulated for the various groupings regarding the granting of traffic rights to airlines originating from outside Africa.

In order to reduce operating costs, efforts will be made to encourge the intensification of technical cooperation, joint exploitation of ground equipment, collective insurance, development of maintenance centres and application of special (promotional) rates.

A common African policy on the computerised reservation system will be adopted.

2. Establishment of the ICAO Air Navigation Plan and improvement of air security.

Efforts will be made to mobilize adequate resources for purchasing and improving the equipment necessary for implementing the Air Navigation Plan and ensuring air security.

Support will also be given to the States to ratify the relevant conventions.

3. Human resource development

To improve the management capabilities of the air transport and air navigation enterprises and the administrations of civil aviation authorities, training programmes will be developed and the standard for the training of air transport personnel improved.

4. Safety of air transport operation

The safety standards of air transport operations will be improved.

5. Facilitation

Infrastructure designed for the improvement of facilitation at African airports will be improved through technical assistance. Assistance will also be provided to the States in drawing up legislation aimed at improving facilitation.

6. Studies

Undertake studies necessary for the development of air services and the establishment of viable and cost-effective air transport enterprises.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT

A. Long-term Objectives:

(i) Improvement of the integration of all modes of transport so as to carry the cargo in one chain of transport smoothly,

(ii) All modes of transport adjust their services according to the requirements of the multimodal transport system.

B. Short-term and medium-term areas of concentration

(i) The adjustment of the trade to the needs of multimodal transport.

(ii) Policy makers at the national and subregional level have to adapt policies and plans for the introduction of multimodal transport.

(iii) The establishment of inland container centres.

(iv) The adjustment of laws and regulations to foster multimodal transport and the establishment of M.T.O. as well as ratification of the M.T. convention. Implementation of documentation procedures and regulations which consume with the needs of multimodal transport.

(v) Englargement of training activities covering multimodal transport.

(vi) Improvement of Managerial abilities for the introduction of multimodal transport.

WATER BASED TRANSPORT

I. Shipping

A. Long Term objectives

1. Develop appropriate activities related to the following objectives in view inter alia, of contribution. significantly and positively to the balance of payment.

2. Introduction of modern shipping technologies to meet African needs.

3. Development of ship repairing and ship building industries in the African region, where the feasibility exists for such enterprises.

4. The establishment, re-organization and strengthening of Maritime Administration.

5. Ratification and implementation of international conventions and other recommendations into an appropriate national maritime legislation.

6. The establishment of new shipping organizations, supported by carefully made studies and requirements.

This to include:

(i) Purchasing or acquisition through chartering of vessels for the movement of cargoes whenever the need arises;

(ii) The establishment of national shippers councils and freight booking centres;

(iii) The development of coastal shipping services (passengers and cargoes) in the various African subregions with the view of integrating such services within the transport chain;

(iv) The increasing of efforts to implement the attainment of cargo sharing formula of the Convention for the Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences and also attainment of Fleet capacity of 3.92% of the World tonnage by Africa as targeted by ECOSOC.

(v) The establishment of national MTO (Freight Forwarding activities) to increase participation in multimodal transport;

7. Mobilization of capital resources.

8. Manpower development in the field of Maritime transport, including support to maritime training institutions.

9. Programmes for the prevention and combatting of Marine Pollution.

10. Harmonization of documentation and procedures to facilitate maritime trade.

11. Harmonization of transport and trade policies on national and subregional levels.

12. Improvement in Aids to navigation and shore to ship communications and vice-versa.

II. Ports

A. Long-Term objectives

1. Increase port efficiency and there by improve their financial viability, through improvement of managerial, operational etc. fields;

2. Simplification of Structure of port Tariffs;

3. Enlarge the portion of Unitization of cargo in African ports in order to attain more favourable transport costs.

4. Assisting land-locked countries to facilitate their foreign trade through ports of Transit countries by removing non-physical barriers;

5. Updating of port regulations for handling of vessels in ports, custory of cargo in ports, limitations of responsibilities of ports and other related industries in ports, handling of waste materials in ports etc.;

6. Encouragement of leasing of port facilities.

7. Research on the implementation of new forms of co-operative arrangements among countries of the subregion in sea Transport.

B. Short and Medium Term areas of activities

(i) Human Resource development in the fields of port organizations, management, operations, engineering, other technical fields such as safety conditions etc.and also strengthening existing training centres and/or establishing new ones whenever necessary;

(ii) The development of port legislations and regulations such as handling of vessels in ports, custory of cargo in ports, demarkation of responsibilities of ports and other related industries in ports, handling of waste materials in ports etc.;

(iii) Improvement and harmonization of shipping, customs, and ports documents to facilitate smooth cargo movement from ports to the interiors especially food distributions;

(iv) Improvement of ship to shore and vise versa communications and Aids to Navigation;

III. Inland Water Transport

A. Long term objectives

Development of integrated transport systems at the level of each river basin on the basis of master plans for multisectoral development of the basins and promotion of inter-modal coordination.

B. Short and Medium Term areas of activities

- Improvement of the navigable waterway networks of each river basin through concerted action (joint services) with regard to maintenance, buoyage, rehabilitation and equipment;

- Maintenance, rehabilitation of equipment and ports infrastructure particularly to increase efficiency and to ensure intermodal coordination;

- Improvement of the technical, and economic performance of inland navigation vessels, particularly through concerted action with regard to shipbuilding, maintenance and repair;

- Improvement of training of inland water transport personnel and strengthening of existing training establishments;

- Harmonization and updating of documentation, legislation and regulation, with a view to finding concerted solutions to related facilitation problems;

- Improvement of management, particularly through the promotion of joint enterprises for operating services;

PRIORITY OBJECTIVES FOR THE POSTAL SERVICES SUBSECTOR

I. Improvement and rationalization of the management of postal administration and services:

A. Short and medium term areas of activity:

(a) Take measures aimed at:

(i) Re-examining or reviewing postal systems in order to provide for greater liberty and sufficient flexibility in the management of postal services;

(ii) Separating postal services from telecommunications in order to provide specific management to the sector;

(iii) Giving greater flexibility to postal administrations in the fixing of tariffs and in the use of income generated;

(iv) Introducing industrial and commercial operating conditions in the postal services.

(b) Take action which will lead to:

(i) Making optimum use of the available human and material resources;

(ii) Improvement of working methods so as to increase productivity;

(iii) Improvement of the quality of services to meet user needs;

(iv) Improvement of training and widening of its scope to cover modern management techniques.

II. Improvement of mail routeing and distribution:

Short and medium term areas of activity:

(a) The gradual establishment of transit centres;

(b) Preparation and/or periodic revision of routeing plans;

(c) Improvement of service to landlocked countries;

(d) Sustained investment in rural postal services so as to open up the areas concerned;

(e) Improvement of the quality of postal services in urban areas.

III. Improvement of the quality of training:

Short and medium term areas of activity:

(a) Better definition of training needs;

(b) Reform of curricula;

(c) Diversification of training activities;

(d) Regular evaluation and monitoring of training;

(e) Training of instructors to upgrade their qualifications.

IV. Individual and collective autonomy of the countries with respect to postal facilities

Short and medium term areas of activity

(a) Establishment of four subregional workshops;

(b) Manufacture of the basic postal materials;

(c) Purchase of postal materials from subregional markets;

V. Introduction of new services and products for better competitiveness on the communications market

Short and medium term areas of activity

(a) Establishment of Express Mail Service (EMS);

(b) Development of the Electronic Mail Service.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. Long Term Objective

Development of an integrated telecommunications network based on well defined national, subregional and regional plans. This should include, among other things, the notion of accessibility to telephones in rural areas and telephone density in urban areas.

B. Short and medium term areas of concentration:

(i) Management and development of human resources;

(ii) Maintenance, Rehabilitation and modernization of existing telecommunication infrastructural facilities;

(iii) Improvement in the management of telecommunications services;

(iv) Establishment of effective and operational planning units within national telecommunications administrations;

(v) Establishment, harmonization and implementation of tariffs agreement at sub-regional and regional levels;

(vi) Promote the transiting of a high percentage of intra African communications through centres in Africa by utilising the installed Panaftel Network;

(vii) Development of research and manufacturing capacity;

(viii) Completion of the missing links of the Panaftel Network;

(ix) Implementation of the RASCOM project;

(x) Strengthening of regional telecommunications institutions (PATU);

(xi) Provision of services for special users such as news agencies, air transport, broadcasting and meteorological services.

BROADCASTING

A. Long-term Objectives

(i) Greater emphasis should be placed on training and human resource development;

(ii) Carry out research on propagation problems in Africa;

(iii) Strengthen and develop exchange programme;

B. Areas of concentration in the medium and short-term

(i) Conduct surveys to measure soil conductivity and weakening of propagation;

(ii) Establish a network for the daily exchange of television news and programmes among African countries;

(iii) Establish subregional audivisual institutes;

(iv) Establish subregional centres for studies on rural radio services in English and Portuguese speaking areas, similar to the one for French-speaking areas which is located in Ouagadougou;

(v) Intensify efforts towards the implementation of the development of Broadcasting in Africa (DBA) programme as called for in Recommendation 4 of the African Telecommunications Development Conference (Tunis, 1987);

(vi) Conduct feasibility study for the manufacture of low-cost broadcasting equipment and radios in Africa;

(vii) Strengthen URTNA;

GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF UNTACDA II PROGRAMME

I. INTRODUCTION

On 20 December 1988, the United Nations General Assembl
resolution 43/179 in support of a second United Nations Decade for
and Communications in Africa for the years 1991-2000. This was a cu
of the efforts made by the African governments in support of the
taken by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communica
Planning at its sixth meeting in March 1988 held at Kinshasa, Zai
decision, expressed in the Kinshasa resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73
following an indepth evaluation of the results and impact of the fir
programme on the economic development of Africa in general, and
development of transport and communications in particular.

It will be recalled that the United Nations Transport and Commu
Decade in Africa (UNTACDA) was proclaimed by the United Nations
Assembly in December 1977 upon the request of the ECA Conference of
in order to highlight Africa's special needs in these sectors.
meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Commu
and Planning, held in May 1979, adopted the objectives and strateg
Decade. The global objective was the establishment of an integrated
and communications network throughout the continent with partcicular
on harmonization, co-ordination and modernization primarily for the p
supporting the development of key sectors such as industry, agricu
trade. These objectives were to be realized through the implement
policies, plans and projects at the national, subregional and region
with the main burden being borne by the African countries th
Projects were ranked in terms of priority with the highest priority
projects with regional and subregional impact, followed by national
of disadvantaged countries and in third place, other national projects

The evaluation of the first Decade showed that, although the De
a positive impact on member States, ten years was hardly sufficient
complete so gigantic a task as was envisaged during the Decad
consequence, a great deal of work will have to be continued beyond t
the first Decade. Furthermore, new challenges including those ari
technological change, some of which were not foreseen at the tim
launching of the first Decade, have emerged and will also need att
the years to come.

In light of the above, it is clear that the first Decad
foundation for development of the sectors. A second Decade is
imperative to continue the momentum of the above activities begun d
first Decade and to ensure that these activities do not come to a st
Beside the need to pursue solutions to problems which were tackle
first Decade, there is also a need to address new problems which d
have arisen since, or will arise in the near future. No comparable
programme would be able to rally African countries and the inte
community at large or maintain the momentum and activities already sta

II THEMES

The main basis for self-sustaining economic development in Africa is agricultural development. This is why the LPA and subsequent regional, subregional and national development programmes emphasize that any programme for the support sectors such as transport and communications must, first and foremost, serve to enhance development of food and agriculture in Africa. Thus, the aim of physical integration of Africa should be based on the economic poles of production-consumption. These poles apply to agriculture as well as to mining and industry. The promotion of trade among African States as well as between Africa and the outside world would naturally follow. This is the raison d'etre of the UNTACDA II programme.

A deficiency of the UNTACDA I programme was that it consisted of a collection of sometimes unrelated projects. During the Second Decade it is necessary to sharpen the focus of the programme to the solution of specific problems. These problems may be grouped into themes as follows

1. Furthering the process of regional economic integration through expanded trade and on the basis of phased, balanced programme of infrastructure, operational efficiency, service quality and capacity improvements, including new links.

2. Maintenance, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing infrastructure and development of cost recovery systems for their sustainability.

3. Improvement of management efficiency through better planning and operation of transport and communication systems by encouraging the use of appropriate technology.

4. Improvement of quality of human resources and its utilisation.

5. Improvement of traffic safety and security.

6. Support of efficient transport and communication systems for improved urban and rural living condition while protecting the environment.

7. Updating and/or application of existing regional and international legal instruments in order to speed up the realisation of the objectives of UNTACDA II.

8. Facilitation of traffic flow through rationalization and/or harmonization of tariffs, documentation and immigration and customs formalities to enhance intra- and extra-African trade and services.

9. Development of capacity for the production of transport and communications equipment and material in Africa and development of channels for technology transfer.

10. Development of enhanced systems planning capacity at national, sub-regional and regional levels.

11. Reinforcement of the regional and subregional organisations structurally and financially to enable them to serve as focal points for the conception, execution and the monitoring of the second Decade programme.

III. ACTION PLAN

1. Criteria for the Selection of Projects

It is necssary to to lay down criteria for the purpose, on the one hand, of serving as directives for all concerned in initiating projects (Governments, subregional and regional organizations as well as UN Specialized agencies and other institutions) and on the other hand, as a reference tool for ECA, the coordinator of the Decade, by which it will ensure that projects submitted for inclusion in the Decade programme conform to the global objectices and strategies of the Decade.

The main criterion for the selection of any project for inclusion in the Decade Programme should be that it contributes effectively to the implementation of the economic, socio-cultural and political objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos. As such, projects shall be expected to contribute to the economic, political and socio-cultural integration of Africa.

To this end, the following criteria have been defined:

(a) National projects

1. Projects must be included in the National Development Plan or be approved and supported by the Government.

2. All national projects which meet the UNTACDA II themes, and particularly those dealing with Human Resource Development Maintenence, Rehabilitation and Modernization, shall be included in the Decade programme.

3. Projects should promote national socio-economic development and have direct or indirect impact with sub-regional or regional integration.

4. For infrastructural projects, they must demonstrate social and economic feasibility and/or other demonstrable benefits.

5. Projects should generate local expertise and increased national capacity by using, as much as possible, local human and other resources.

6. Projects must be institutionally sustainable.

7. Projects should, as far as possible, involve the integration of women and youth in development.

8. Projects must conform to environmental policies and programmes.

(b) Regional and sub-regional projects

In addition to the criteria listed above for national projects, the following criteria shall apply to regional and subregional projects.

1. Projects must be included in the National Plans of countries or be approved by the relevant subregional or regional inter-governmental organizations or be part of a programme adopted internationally for the benefit of African States.

2. Projects must involve more than one country and promote subregional or regional co-operation and integration.

3. In the case of infrastructural investment projects, pre-feasibility studies should have been done or required to be done and, if possible, be included along with project submission.

2. Mechanism for the transfer of projects from UNTACDA I to UNTACDA II

Existing programmes, policies and projects will be reviewed and oriented according to the new objectives and criteria.

The on-going projects should, in principle, be evaluated according to their respective provisions for evaluation and oriented according to the above criteria.

Financial institutions implicated in these projects should provide the necessary resources for evaluation and strengthening the projects in order to maximize their contribution to UNTACDA II.

3. Roles of various actors

A programme such as UNTACDA provides the African countries with a suitable framework for co-ordinating the development of transport and communications sectors. Africa does not as yet have a machinery for economic co-ordination at the regional level. However, there exists several subregional economic groupings which can form a basis for regional co-ordination.

Such co-ordination must, therefore, necessarily involve several partners each with a clearly defined role. This chapter seeks to define the role of each of the partners working towards the attainment of the objectives of UNTACDA, II.

The report on the evaluation of UNTACDA I clearly pointed out that the subregional economic organizations as well as the specialized African intergovernmental organizations did not participate adequately in the conceptualization, planning or execution of the First Decade programme. The report recommended that all future programmes should clearly define a framework for greater participation of these organizations, along with the relevant United nations agencies and the African States. In view of the importance of IGO's, it is expected that during the Second Decade they will become a major source of projects and major partners in development.

In formulating the global strategy for UNTACDA I, an attempt was made to define the roles of some of the actors, notably ECA as the lead agency, the MULPOCs and the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee. This attempt, however, was deficient on two grounds: first, except for ECA, the roles were vaguely defined and, second, it left out the roles of several other actors. It is, therefore, essential during UNTACDA II there be a precise and comprehensive definition of the roles of the different parties involved. The following are the descriptions of these roles.

(a) ECA - lead agency

The Economic Commission for Africa was appointed the lead agency for the Decade programme. This role has been reconfirmed by the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning in its resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.88/73 made at its sixth meeting in Kinshasa in March 1988. As the lead agency, ECA among other things, is "... responsible, in collaboration with other agencies, for the preparation of the Decade programme and for the harmonization, co-ordination and monitoring of all Decade activities, ...".

Co-ordination implies familiarity with the content of the programmes that are to be co-ordinated. This can be obtained through contacts made with the other agencies involved in the implementation of the Decade programme, either through correspondence or attendance at their policy-making meetings.

In particular, ECA as the lead agency will carry out the following activities.

(a) Conceptualize and promote concerted plans for the orderly development of an integrated pan-African transport and communications network.

(b) Elaborate regional plans by integrating subregional plans where they exist, and where they do not exist (as in North Africa, for example) formulating them in collaboration with Governments and relevant members of the IACC.

(c) Co-ordinate the individual efforts of UN specialized agencies and African intergovernmental organizations in order to reach rational and synchronized development of the networks at the least cost.

(d) Organize fora for discussion of the benefits accruing from co-operation among African Governments in constructing the network and from the removal of non-physical barriers to the free flow of traffic across frontiers.

(e) Make proposals for concrete actions for the standardization of systems, where necessary.

(f) Make proposals for concrete action for the removal of non-physical barriers to inter-African transport services and promote the signing and ratification of conventions on facilitation of the movement of persons and goods across frontiers.

(g) Serve as a secretariat for sub-sectoral inter-agency meetings held to monitor and evaluate the progress of sub-sectoral regional programmes and to propose necessary follow-up action.

(h) Provide secretariat services for IACC and Conference of Ministers.

(i) Serve as the secretariat of the Resource Mobilization Committee and be responsible for follow-up of the decisions of the Committee.

(j) Render technical assistance to IGO's that need such assistance.

(b) Subregional economic organizations

Closer consultations and co-ordination among the subregional organizations is necessary in order to co-ordinate subregional plans, programmes and activities in the field of transport and communications and from these, a co-ordinated regional plan, programmes and activities can be developed. Such co-ordination would facilitate the sharing of experiences among the various subregions. Through these subregional organizations efforts

to develop workable systems through, for example, the promotion of conventions and agreements to remove non-physical barriers to transport and communications and to institute mutually agreed tariffs within and between the various subregions can be co-ordinated.

In some subregions there is too much duplication of efforts through too many sub-organizations dealing with one or other aspect of transport and communications. This often leads to confusion and ineffectiveness. ECA should assist these organizations to streamline their activities in the areas of transport and communications.

In order to be effective, ECA should take a more active role in the activities of these organizations. In particular, ECA must clearly explain its intentions to, and jointly work with these organizations in developing their respective programmes. ECA should, as a matter of principle, actively work with these organizations over and above attending their annual meetings.

Development plans of the various subregions shall then be combined to form a coherent regional plan for development. The ten- year programme may then be developed in a similar manner.

(c) Sectoral African Intergovernmental Organizations and UN Agencies

This group includes all African IGO's and UN agencies in the field of transport and communications at both subregional and regional levels. These organizations differ from the subregional economic organizations in that each is specialized in one, and only one, subsector of transport and communications.

Existing African IGO's in this category include:

(i) Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU) - Telecommunications;
(ii) Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) - Postal Services;
(iii) Union of National Radio and Television Organization of Africa (URTNA) - Broadcasting;
(iv) The Union of African Railways (UAR) - Railways;
(v) African Airlines Association (AFRAA) - Air Transport;
(vi) African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) - Air Transport;
(vii) Port Management Associations (PMAESA, PMAWCA, PMANA) - Ports.

The role which these African organizatioons played in UNTACDA I varied greatly. It has been recognized that they could have played even a greater role in co-ordinating and monitoring UNTACDA projects as well as the overall development in their sectors. However, most of these organizations lack resources required to make them more effective.

In future, in order to increase their participation in the development programme, the existing organizations need to be strengthened, as called for in resolution ECA/UNTACDA/Res.38/70 passed by the Conference of african Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning at its recent meeting at Kinshasa in March 1988.

International organization may initiate programmes, projects and policies in co-ordination with the States, sub-regional and regional organizations and in collaboration with ECA. These organizations should be responsible for drawing up sectoral programmes as well as guidelines for project preparation and submissions, in accordance with the themes of UNTACDA II.

By virtue of its role as a regional economic commission of the UN, ECA is most suited to co-ordinate the activities of these UN organizations in Africa, particularly in transport and communications where there is need to co-ordinate the various subsectors to form an integrated system for the region. The major agencies and their areas of competence and/or interest are;

(i)	Roads and Road Transport	- ILO, FAO, World Bank
(ii)	Railways	- ILO, World Bank
(iii)	Maritime Transport	- UNCTAD, IMO, ILO, WMO
(iv)	Air Transport	- ICAO, WMO
(v)	Telecommunciations	- ITU, WMO
(vi)	Broadcasting	- UNESCO, ITU
(vii)	Postal Services	- UPU
(viii)	Manufacturing	- UNIDO

The agencies including, financing institutions, engaged in various sectors will consult each other to initiate and implement actions and programmes in support of the themes of the Decade, in accordance with new guidelines and institutional arrangements.

At the centre of all UN development efforts is the United Nations Development Programme. In the first Decade, UNDP played a major role by establishing the Decade Co-ordination Unit at ECA in addition to financing several Decade projects. The UNDP will continue to play this role in UNTACDA II and its field offices should have the responsibility of representing and promoting the programme at the country level.

(d) Inter-Agency Co-ordination Committee

This is the technical committee consisting of all relevant United Nations agencies and African intergovernmental organizations involved in the fields of transport and communications in Africa. It is the IACC which makes recommendations to the Conference of Ministers through the intergovernmental meeting of experts.

In the first Decade, the roles of the various groups which made up the IACC were not clearly defined, which resulted in some confusion and ineffectiveness in the execution of the Decade programme. It is therefore recommended that various sub-committees of the IACC be created to deal with issues of each subsector or subregion.

(e) Resource Mobilization Committee

A Resource Mobilization Committee shall be established consisting of ADB, OAU, UNDP, BADEA, World Bank and EEC as members with ECA providing secretariat services. (The terms of reference and strategy for this committee will be decided during its meeting which should be held before the 13th IACC).

(f) The African States

There is no question but that the onus of development lies on the member States themselves. The United Nations agencies and the international community at large can only provide support to the African endeavours. Thus, the African Governments are expected to continue to accord a high priority to the development of transport and communications sectors and to allocate sufficient resources to the sectors, individually as well as collectively, through the programmes of relevant regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and the subregional economic organizations.

African Governments thus, have certain specific responsibilities. These are to:

(a) Provide information as required by the lead agency;

(b) Assist the lead agency in resource mobilization by vigorously defending their projects at resource mobilization meetings;

(c) Ensure that regional and subregional Decade projects and programmes are included in national development plans and are brought to the attention of donors during bilateral assistance discussions. Ministers responsible for transport and communications should make sure that Ministers of Economic Planning and Development are aware of multilateral programmes and their implications for the national development plans;

(d) Ministers of Transport and Communications should brief their counterparts in Planning, Development or Finance on decisions taken at their sectoral meetings which have implications for the latters' fora e.g. ADB and World Bank Governors' meeting. In the past, Transport and Communications Ministers have made several appeals to ADB to assume the role of lead agency for the mobilization of resources without those appeals being endorsed by the Governors (Ministers of Finance) of the Bank.

(e) Provide an enabling environment for mobilization of domestic resources (public and private) for the development of the transport and communication systems.

(f) Establish a national machinery for the co-ordination of the implementation of the Decade programme.

IV. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The institutions established during UNTACDA I are adjudged to be still appropriate and shall be continued during UNTACDA II.

1. The Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning

The Ministerial Conference shall continue to be the permanent policy-making body for the conception, implementation and monitoring of the Decade programme.

2. The Inter Agency Co-ordinating Committee (IACC)

The IACC, grouping United Nations bodies, African intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions, shall, among other things, prepare the programmes to be submitted to the preparatory committees of national officials and subsequently to the Ministerial Conference. It shall meet at least once a year.

The Resource Mobilization Committee shall be a sub-committee of the IACC. Other sectoral sub-committees may also be established as necessary.

3. The Lead Agency

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) shall, as decided by the UN General Assembly in resolution 43/179 of December 1988, continue to be the lead agency for UNTACDA II as it was for UNTACDA I and shall perform the functions enumerated in Chapter III.

SUMMARY

Since the Nairobi Conference (July 1985) and the adoption of the Forward-Looking Strategies by the United Nations General Assembly, th and the African region in particular has witnessed an unprecedented i in activities for and involving women.

As a follow-up to the first report on the "Changing socio-economic tions of women in Africa" presented to the ECA Conference of Ministe present report reviews and highlights activities undertaken since Apri In this respect, activities undertaken and projects being implemen United Nations agencies at national, subregional and regional level been reviewed. Issues in the context of structural adjustment polic their impact on women have been discussed.

The role and the contribution of the ECA African Training and R Centre for Women (ATRCW) has been discussed along with major act undertaken since 1988. Based on ECA missions and information made av by member States in responding to ECA's questionnaire, major activiti policy measures established at the national level have been reviewed in

As regards sectoral analysis, the paper has focused on empl education and training, law and legislation, and women at the decision- level. In brief, the review shows that there has been an increase number of women in formal employment and in the services sector in part In education, enrolment of girls at all levels of the school syst increased except in the science-based training programmes where the fewer girls than boys. At the decision-making level, the number of in key positions in both the private and public sector has increased.

Problems and constraints faced in the implementation of the Str have been pointed out. They include structure, and lack of human and fi resources, information and data. Finally, recommendations have been a for consideration.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The United Nations Decade for Women, 1975-1985, served as a c in focusing attention on women's issues. The Decade for Women ended i 1985 with two world conferences in Nairobi, Kenya - one conve non-governmental organizations, the other convened by the United for its Member States. And while a decade of international attent and acknowledgement of the plight and potential of women world-wide h resulted in substantial changes in the economic, political and conditions of women, it has had other important results. Women's pr programmes, organizations, campaigns and a wide range of initiative come about.

2. Since the 1985 World Conference, and in an effort to implement the Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, endorsed General Assembly in its resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985, the and the African region in particular have witnessed an unprecedented in of activities for and involving women.

3. This paper is a follow-up to the report presented last year (document E/ECA/CM.14/17) on the "Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies". The paper reviewed and highlighted programmes and activities undertaken within the United Nations system and by member States to implement the Strategies in order to bring about changes in the economic, political and social conditions of women.

4. Taking into consideration the activities reviewed in last year's report, the present report will review the various activities undertaken by member States, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations since the last meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers in Niamey, the Niger in April 1988. It will also review and highlight the activities of other United Nations agencies not included in the last year's report. In addition, the report gives attention to the impact of the economic crisis on women, women in the informal sector and analyses the responses to the ECA/ATRCW questionnaire sent to member States in December 1987.

5. The report is therefore presented as follows: part II reviews activities undertaken by various United Nations agencies and governments at national, subregional and regional levels; part III looks at the economic crisis and its impact on women; part IV reviews activities undertaken in various sectors such as education and training, employment, the informal sector and women at the decision-making level; and part V highlights problems/constraints, advances recommendations for consideration and draws conclusions.

II. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES AND MEMBER STATES

A. United Nations agencies

6. According to the report of an ECA mission to Egypt, 1/ the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is currently sponsoring two projects on women both of which are being implemented by the Department of Women's Affairs in the Egyptian Ministry of Social Affairs. One of the projects concerns the training of rural women in population and development with the aim of improving their socio-economic level. This is basically an income-generating programme involving training through extension service projects such as education, family planning, literacy classes, etc., while the other project is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Department of Women's Affairs. The long-term objective is to establish the Department as one of the principal organs in policy-making, planning, monitoring and co-ordinating women's affairs with a view to promoting the role and status of Egyptian women in line with the national policy goals of the country.

7. Similar activities focusing on income-generation for rural women in particular are being undertaken in Egypt by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The overall objective of the agencies' activities in Egypt is to raise the socio-economic standard of the rural population, particularly women.

8. Information made available during an ECA mission to Botswana in September 1988 shows that such agencies as UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have given support to women's programmes. For instance, UNICEF supported a national workshop on gender responsive planning and the project cycle which was organized in September 1988 by the Women's Affairs Unit in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. It was also revealed during the mission that because the majority of female-headed households in Botswana are poor, UNICEF was currently conducting a mid-term review to identify strategies for securing household income. 2/

9. The Inter-agency Women In Development (WID) Group, composed of all United Nations agencies in Ethiopia (including ATRCW), has reviewed activities and research studies undertaken in the country and prepared a report which elaborates in detail programmes and strategies for WID in Ethiopia. The Group also held a workshop on women in development for representatives of United Nations agencies in Ethiopia. The workshop, whose objectives were to undertake gender analyses, to explain the relevance of gender analysis to the work of the participants and to define WID priorities for Ethiopia, was sponsored by UNDP and held in Addis Ababa in October 1988. At the beginning of December 1988, UNICEF also sponsored a national workshop in Ethiopia, similar to the one held in Botswana on gender responsive planning.

10. The Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies emphasized the need for women's involvement in new and renewable sources of energy (NRSE) planning and projects. Special incentives were recommended to enable women to obtain education and technical training relevant to their role as key producers, 3/ users and managers of energy sources. In line with the recommendations of the Strategies, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement for Women (INSTRAW) initiated in 1987 a project on the promotion of women's involvement in NRSE in Africa. The preparatory phase has involved a survey of NRSE use in the six selected African countries, namely Ghana, Malawi, Zambia, Cameroon, Guinea and Mali. The survey determined the extent of energy consumption by women and types of fuel sources and activities linked to the collection and use of fuel. Surveys of women's organizations, their potential involvement in NRSE projects and the degree of political support have also been completed.

11. The new orientation towards NRSE demands that women be informed, educated and trained in order to be able to participate adequately in the process of technological change now taking place in the energy sector. This will enhance the status of women, increase their participation in general socio-economic development, and improve the rural environment. INSTRAW is committed to these goals and its activities in NRSE are having an impact on a number of countries in Africa in which INSTRAW is involved.

12. INSTRAW has also produced an information booklet entitled "Improved stoves, an integral part of energy-saving strategies" geared towards household energy needs.

13. FAO has also been involved in energy for women's income-generating activities. For instance, FAO has implemented a fish-smoking project in Ghana with the co-operation of the National Council of Women. The device used in this project reduces fuelwood consumption, improves the quality of the smoked fish and ameliorates working conditions and decreases the quantity of smoke inhaled by women workers.

14. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and UNICEF have also been involved in the dissemination of this technology to Togo, Benin and Guinea where women have been trained as trainers and extension workers to teach other women how to use and maintain the new device.

15. Focus on women is a critical dimension of the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD). The Fund's basic approach in this area has been to emphasize the role of women as producers rather than just as consumers of social services. With this in view, the Fund has endeavoured to improve the access of women to inputs and services which would raise their productivity. In this connection, an increasing share of IFAD projects and share of resource allocation under each project is directed towards women. Secondly, steps have been taken to increase the allocation of credit facilities to women so that they can better their own farms and productive activities. The Fund's projects with focus on women have been and are currently being undertaken in Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Djibouti, Malawi, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, the Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

16. ATRCW has made a viable contribution to the Women in Development (WID) programmes in the region. Its principal activities include, among others, promotion of women in small-scale enterprises with particular emphasis on improving the managerial capabilities of women, enhancing the role of women in the informal sector and access of women to scientific and technical fields; monitoring changes in the situation of African women in the context of the Forward-Looking Strategies; sectoral analysis of emerging socio-economic trends and their impact on African women, in particular, the effect of persistent famine and drought on women as food producers and structural adjustment programmes; enhancing the capacity of national machineries to incorporate gender issues in national development plans/strategies to promote the establishment of a national trust fund for women.

17. In line with the above principal activities, and within the framework of the ECA 1988-1989 work programme, ATRCW has undertaken the following activities since April 1988: two studies in the informal sector and agro-industries financed by the Ford Foundation were undertaken in May-July 1988. The study in the informal sector, undertaken in Kenya, Swaziland, Zambia and Mauritius, was aimed at assessing the status of women in the sector, identifying factors hampering women's participation and looking at support measures being provided by governments to enhance women's activities in the sector. The study identified research gaps, problems and constraints in the sector.

18. The study in agro-industries covered the United Republic of Tanzania, Botswana, Lesotho and Zimbabwe. Its aim was to establish the extent of women's participation in agro-industries; identify factors hindering their participation; and survey current trends regarding women's involvement in agro-industrial production and marketing. The study identified research gaps, training needs and provided strategies for enhancing women's participation in agro-industries. As a follow-up to these studies, ATRCW has organized and is launching its first research competition for women researchers in Eastern and Southern Africa. The objective of the research competition which is being funded by the Ford Foundation, is to give women the opportunity to carry out research to improve their skills.

19. Paragraph 223 of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies states in part that "... increased opportunities and encouragement should be given to women to study science, mathematics and engineering at the university level and for girls to study mathematics and science at the pre-university level". 5/ In line with the Strategies, ATRCW commissioned three case studies on women and scientific professions in Africa. The studies, financed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), were undertaken in Kenya, Sierra Leone and Swaziland. They have revealed the low level of enrolment of women/girls in the science-based training programmes as well as the low level representation of women in science-based professions.

20. Development planning has failed to recognize fully or systematically the contribution of women in the development process or, in turn, the effect of this process on them. 6/ In an effort to promote and ensure that women's concerns are taken into account in national development plans, ATRCW organized in November 1988 an expert group meeting on the guidelines for the incorporation of women's concerns in national development plans. Women, who constitute 50 per cent of the human population, have usually been overlooked in planning for development, in that they have not been viewed as direct agents and beneficiaries of the development process.

21. As part of society, women need to be viewed in the context of development planning if their socio-economic conditions are to be improved, and if they are to effectively participate in attaining the goals of development. The meeting, therefore, reviewed development planning both in economic and equity matters and the extent to which women's concerns have been taken into consideration in national development plans. Three major areas of concern for effective integration of gender concerns in development planning and policy were discussed and established: the awareness and commitment of key policy makers and planners to gender equality and gender responsive planning at all levels; the establishment of institutional structures for gender responsive planning and implementation; and the establishment of statistical data bases and information that provide gender disaggregated data. 7/

22. The report of this meeting will be used to prepare technical guidelines for the incorporation of women's concerns in national development plans to be published this year (1989). The publication will be disseminated to appropriate national structures for their use in advocating the incorporation of women's concerns in national development plans.

23. A subregional seminar on measures to improve women's management skills, also organized by ATRCW, was held in Douala, Cameroon in November/December 1988. The seminar, which was supported by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), was targeted to women in the French-speaking countries. Earlier, a similar seminar was conducted for English-speaking African countries in January/February 1987. The objectives of the seminar were, among others, to strengthen women's management capabilities and promote small- and medium-scale enterprises and projects for women; and to improve the technical competencies of women in order to ensure viability of their work in enterprises and projects. The seminar was successful in formulating recommendations and strategies for future management training programmes for women.

24. Two missions which were undertaken to Botswana and Egypt in September/October 1988 aimed at reviewing and monitoring the implementation of the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies. Information collected during the missions is reflected throughout this report.

B. Member States

25. In December 1987, ATRCW sent to member States a questionnaire entitled "Changing socio-economic conditions of women in Africa in the context of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women". The questionnaire was and is intended to give a comparative assessment of the situation of women in the African region, giving attention to areas such as women in agriculture, employment, education and training, industry, research and communications; policy measures and women at the decision-making level. To date, only eight member States have responded to the questionnaire, five from French-speaking and three from English-speaking African countries.

26. Based on the responses received so far regarding the ATRCW questionnaire and on the missions undertaken, the following paragraphs provide an analysis of the activities member States have undertaken (at the national level) to implement the Strategies in order to promote and improve the socio-economic conditions of women.

(a) Botswana

27. Following the Nairobi Conference in July 1985, the Government of Botswana has increasingly recognized the significant contribution of women to the development of the country. This is evidenced by its efforts to strengthen the Women's Affairs Unit and giving financial and technical support to women's projects. Through the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, incentives in the form of financial assistance are being provided to women engaged in income-generating activities. The Ministry's Central Statistical Office has in its 1985 country profile provided information on women in development in Botswana.

28. In August/September 1988, the Women's Affairs Unit drafted a document on national policy on women in development to be submitted to the Cabinet and eventually to Parliament for adoption. If adopted, the document will serve as a blueprint for all governmental and non-governmental action towards enhancing the participation of women in national development.

29. In September 1988, the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, through its Women's Affairs Unit, organized and conducted a two week intensive workshop on gender responsive planning and the project cycle. The objective of the workshop was to enhance the planning and programmatic skills of all district and council planning officers and the staff of the Women's Affairs Unit. A national conference on women in development policy and the Forward-Looking Strategies was held in October 1988 to look into the Strategies specific to the Botswana reality. Income-generating activities at the grass-roots level in the rural areas are being undertaken by various non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The University of Botswana and the National Institute of Development Research and Documentation have undertaken research on income-generation for women, sex differences in education, etc.

(b) Egypt

30. In Egypt, like Botswana and other countries, the Department of Women's Affairs is located in the Ministry of Social Affairs with an adviser to the Department attached to the Ministry. The department is currently involved in income-generating activities supported by UNICEF, ILO and other government bilateral agencies. Activities are basically geared towards the improvement of the living conditions of rural women. There is no national policy on women in development to effectively implement women's programmes. Most of the programmes are services to rural women and nothing much is being done for urban women.

31. The Department is working towards the realization of the Strategies through projects initiated with the support of United Nations agencies such as UNFPA and UNICEF.

(c) Kenya

32. The Government of Kenya recognizes the vital role women play in national development and also acknowledges that, with the necessary support, women could play an even greater role in overall national development. To this end, the Government has created the necessary climate and machinery to enable women to participate fully in development and has instituted policies and programmes which place women at the centre of development. The entire nation has been sensitized on the crucial role of women in development.

33. The Women's Bureau (created in 1976) within the Ministry of Culture and Social Services has the following structural units through which its objectives are realized: administration, research development, small-scale industries, business and appropriate technology, training, planning, agricultural projects, communication and information and non-governmental organizations. In addition to the Women's Bureau, there are currently 35 non-governmental organizations in Kenya.

34. Following the 1985 World Conference and as a result of the Government's continued support to the Women's Bureau and the increased number of women's groups/organizations, the women's programme has expanded tremendously.

35. The following goals, among others, have been achieved:

(a) Promoting awareness of issues affecting women among policy makers and planners;

(b) Establishment and promotion of income-generating activities for women;

(c) Production of bibliography on women of Kenya;

(d) Production of a booklet: Women of Kenya: Review and Evaluation of Progress;

(e) Implementation of women's group leaders training needs assessment survey; and

(f) Establishment of five income-generating pilot projects.

36. Government support to the Women's Bureau in direct support of women activities rose from a more KSh 8,400 (0.54 per cent of the recurrent budget of the Ministry of Culture and Social Services) in 1975/1976, to KSh 1,285,700 (11.64 per cent) in 1984/1985. 8/

(d) Swaziland

37. Though the establishment of the Directorate for Women's Affairs in Swaziland has been approved by the Government, it is not yet functioning. Women's issues are currently being dealt with by different ministries which are being encouraged to extensively integrate women's issues into their programmes and projects. There is no national machinery to co-ordinate women's activities at the national level. An overall policy statement has not yet been announced by the Government.

38. Swaziland has not yet signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women due to some conflicts of customary law particularly to articles 2(f), 3,5(a), 9(1) and (2), 13(a) and (b), 14(29) 15, 16(1c), (1d), (1e), (1f), (1g), and (1h). 9/

39. Support/resources have only been provided by non-governmental organizations in the formal and informal sectors to enable women to participate in the mainstream of development. The University of Swaziland's Social Science Research Unit is currently collecting up-to-date information on the integration of women, women and the law, women and employment, and women and education.

40. In general, in the absence of a national policy and national machinery, nothing much has been or is being done in Swaziland to implement the Strategies.

(e) United Republic of Tanzania

41. The national machinery is located in the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Youth and Sports. Since 1985, endless efforts have been made to provide essential inputs into women's income generating and social activities in order to raise their income and to improve their living standards. Government ministries, parastatals and non-governmental organizations have been striving hard to provide economic and social inputs to help women's groups as part of their contribution towards the implementation of the Strategies.

42. The Ministry of Education has strengthened the home economics post-literacy work-oriented centres by earmarking 900 centres which are being rehabilitated and re-innovated by the district funds and equipped by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The 1985 World Conference has ushered women's issues into a new era. Many government and non-governmental sectors have initiated a large number of women's projects, most of which are jointly financed by international donors and the Tanzanian Government. Various international organizations such as UNICEF, the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD), the Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA), the Danish Development Agency (DANIDA), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), UNIFEM, WFP, ILO, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), OXFAM, etc., have provided financial assistance and equipment to run women's projects.

43. Such assistance is channelled through government bodies to ensure effective monitoring and co-ordination. For example, through the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Youth and Sports, the following projects were launched in 1988:

(a) Women's Appropriate Food Technology (WAFT) by UNIFEM, UNICEF and MCDOYS;

(b) Credit scheme for underpriviledged women of urban and rural areas, financed by UNIFEM and MCDOYS;

(c) Mbeya grinding mill pilot project launched by DANIDA and the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Youth and Sports;

(d) Immunization programme launched in 1986 by UNICEF, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Health;

(e) Training fund for Tanzanian women launched in April 1988 by CIDA; and

(f) Women development project in the Sisal Estates launched by WFP during the second half of 1988. 10/

44. There are many other projects which have been financed through such other ministries as Health, Water, Agriculture, the Prime Ministers' Office, and through other organizations.

(f) Cameroon

45. In order to carry out the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women beyond the Decade itself, the Government of Cameroon established in 1984 the "Ministère de la condition féminine" (Ministry for Women's Affairs) which co-ordinates and monitors specific issues related to the status and advancement of women in the country. To assist the Ministry, a consultative committee on the advancement of women was set up in 1984.

46. Since the 1985 World Conference, the Ministry has established development strategies based on the Forward-Looking Strategies. These strategies and/or measures have made it possible to put into effect a Cameroonian concept of the advancement of women. Three objectives have been defined in relation to this concept:

(a) To lay down and give legal backing to policies on the advancement of women, by the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and by guaranteeing equality of men and women in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

(b) To promote income-generating activities;

(c) To draw up and implement programmes and projects which would facilitate the integration of women in economic activities and thereby ensure their effective participation in national development; and

(d) To ensure that the greater proportion of available manpower is mobilized for development. In this respect, it is intended to give priority to the role of women in the sixth Economic, Social and Cultural Plan of Cameroon. This implies improving the status of women and finding ways and means for their total integration in development. In this regard, some 15 projects are to be carried out on a priority basis during the current five-year period. 11/

(g) Senegal

47. In Senegal, a commission has been set up within the Ministry of Planning and Co-operation on "Women in economic and social development". The commission, whose task is to prepare all the sectoral commissions' projects and measures designed to promote the advancement of women, carries out its functions under the national planning commission.

48. Within the Department of Women's Affairs, there is a female employment division responsible for working towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women; studying problems relating to female employment and their impact on the situation of women; and studying measures for protecting working women and ensuring that regulations are applied. A priority programme has also been launched by the Government to lighten housework by identifying ways to improve conditions. This is seen as a prerequisite for promoting unpaid income-generating activities.

49. Equipment designed to lighten housework has been provided for 470 groups. In terms of structure, the Department of Women's Affairs has organized women's groups into a National Federation of Women's Groups.

(h) Niger

50. In order to effectively implement the Nairobi Strategies, the Government has established within the Ministry for Public Health and Social Affairs a national secretariat in charge of the status of women. The secretariat works in close collaboration with the Niger Women's Association (Association des femmes du Niger). With the support of the Government and UNIFEM, the Association is charged with the responsibility of designing and implementing projects in various fields aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of women.

51. For instance, within the framework of the Strategies, a number of measures and projects have been introduced and initiated in areas such as health, agriculture and education. Various means of lightening household jobs have also been initiated, such as the use of grinding mills, introduction of carts, off-season crops cultivation aimed at ensuring food self-sufficiency and the fight against malnutrition, reafforestation and land reclamation to combat desertification. An ad hoc commission has also been established to assist in the drawing up of certain laws such as family law and law concerning rural areas. 13/

52. In general, the countries reviewed above give an indication that efforts are being made by some governments to implement the Strategies. However, it is too early to measure the impact these programmes have had on women in terms of their socio-economic status. One of the major reasons is the absence of and/or inadequate information and data to assess the impact of WID programmes on their contribution to national development and the extent to which the socio-economic conditions of women have changed and/or are changing.

C. At the subregional/regional levels

53. Following the Nairobi Conference, a number of women's groups have emerged at national, subregional and regional levels. Such existing groups are involved in various activities for the integration of women in development.

54. The West African Women's Association (WAWA) which was established in 1987 held a meeting in Dakar, Senegal in October 1988. The Association's principal objective is to bring together women of West African States for the promotion of women in the development process. The meeting was attended by 14 of the 16 member States, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo. Other organizations attending the meeting included the African Development Bank (ADB), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Pan-African Women Association (PAWO), INSTRAW and the Organisation des femmes entrepreneurs et commerçantes de l'Afrique de l'ouest (OFECAO). The meeting defined priority

areas for WAWA which include, among others, to sensitize member States, non-governmental organizations and international organizations whose assistance is required for the implementation of the WAWA programme, and to work out training and research programmes with special emphasis on training rural women and women at decision-making levels.

55. Similar organizations, associations and activities with a view to improve and promote the advancement of women in the development process within the context of the Strategies have been initiated in other African subregions. For instance, the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States and European Programmes, in collaboration with the Arab League, is planning a major Arab regional conference to be held some time in 1989 on the changing roles, responsibilities and contribution of women to national development throughout the region.

56. In spite of the current situation of the Women in Development (WID) programmes at the ECA/MULPOCs, the Subregional Committees continue to maintain the momentum on women's programmes by holding their regular meetings and presenting their reports to the MULPOC Councils of Ministers meetings.

III. THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC CRISIS/STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT ON WOMEN

57. "The efforts of many countries to implement the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women were undermined by a series of grave economic crises that have had severe repercussions, especially for many developing countries. The worsening of the social situation in many parts of the world, particularly in Africa, as a result of the disruptive consequences of the economic crisis, had a great negative impact on the process of effective and equal integration of women in development." 14/

58. The consequences in the third world are grave: the burden on women is increasing instead of decreasing, infant mortality is rising, more and more babies are born underweight, and women are working harder than ever in order to keep life going. Structural adjustment policies are gender biased since they ignore the unpaid labour of women. 15/ The fact is that unpaid labour in villages and families is the final lifeline for people all over the world when macro-economic measures do not work or may even collapse.

59. At present, self-initiated activities are experiencing a remarkable revival and developing into a new wave of economic activity in a number of developing countries, most of these activities such as those in the informal sector are being initiated and developed by women.

60. Looking into the impact, policies and prospects on women and the economic crisis, the United Nations Office at Vienna Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs Branch for the Advancement of Women held an Interregional seminar on women and the economic crisis in October 1988. It was attended by 25 countries (including five from Africa, namely Botswana, Nigeria, Egypt, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania), United Nations agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The objective of the seminar was to arouse the awareness of governments, public decision-makers and international bodies to the existence of the problems

that have come about as a consequence of the economic crisis; to consider the future orientation of research on the effects of the crisis on women, and policies that could be incorporated in the framework of the overall policies and a comprehensive analysis.

61. Women's access to education, employment opportunities and women's health issues in the context of the economic crisis were considered. It was established that as a result of the increase in global and female unemployment in most countries, women have increasingly joined the informal sector to compensate for declining family income. In general, the meeting established that the economic shocks have led to the deterioration of the situation of women and their standard of living, and that various dimensions of the conditions of women at the national level have been affected by changes in the overall economic situation. The number of women-headed housholds has also increased in both urban and rural areas.

62. Case studies on the impact of economic crisis on women were presented. According to the Nigerian experience, 16/ the economic crisis and structural adjustment programme has implied grave hardships for women. Many industries and the Government itself have had to retrench workers, mainly at the lower levels where women form significant numbers. The economic crisis has resulted in the reduction of real income for women and their households.

63. As a result of the partial removal of the oil subsidy, a measure designed to reduce public expenditure on non-productive sectors, in addition to the effect of the drastic reduction in the value of exchange of the Nigerian currency, food prices for consumers have increased. This has adversely affected the nutritional and health conditions of women and their children.

64. Realizing the need to give special attention to the present undesirable condition of women, the Federal Ministry responsible for women's affairs has formulated a national policy for the development of women, the objectives of which are the eradication of illiteracy among women, promotion of functional education, encouragement of political and civic awareness, elimination of all cultural practices that create obstacles for women, and provision of employment opportunities, etc.

65. In spite of the consequences structural adjustment measures and their implementation have had on women, empirical data and careful analysis of the impact on women in developing countries has hardly been mentioned. Similarly, women's concerns in economic analysis have been neglected in a number of studies.

66. According to Richard Jolly, 17/ the main reason for this neglect is that the economics of recession and adjustment in the 1980s has been a specialist economic topic, for the most part tackled by economists and financial policy makers within a frame of thinking and analysis which traditionally makes no direct reference to the human situation of the people involved. Studies on women have tended to focus on the longer-term trends in the position of women but have neglected how these trends have been affected by the sharp shift from economic growth, however inadequate, to economic stagnation and decline. 18/

67. Empirical studies on the changes in the social, economic and cultural status of women in the course of adjustment are needed. Similarly, household and other statistical surveys that contain data, disaggregated by sex on topics such as household income by source, access to public services, change in consumer prices, etc., have to be developed and implemented.

68. In general, while having a negative impact on women in many respects, the economic crisis provides an opportunity for - indeed forces - the rethinking of approaches to development. Solving the negative consequences for women and improving the well-being of all people in society - men and women - can be achieved if the full potential of women to contribute to the development process can be encouraged by the policies adopted by governments. The emphasis is not on the negative aspects of the current crisis but on the prospect that carefully articulated improvements in policies that can lead to an increase in the quality of the society and in national income. The Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies is an important instrument to be used as a guideline on women's issues in all spheres of development and in formulating policies, strategies and research activities relative to the current economic crisis and its structural adjustment programmes. Problems emerging from the crisis require a long-term perspective and policies which fall within the kinds of strategies clearly set out in the Forward-Looking Strategies.

69. To review further the activities undertaken and being initiated to implement the Strategies in order to bring about changes in the socio-economic conditions of women in Africa, the following part of the report will provide a sectoral analysis of the activities and changes taking place.

IV. SECTORAL ANALYSIS

A. Employment

70. With the changing perception of the role of women in connection with various socio-economic developments over the decade, and particularly as a result of their dramatic increased participation in the labour market, more concerted efforts have been undertaken by governments and international organizations to guarantee respect for the principle of non-discrimination in all areas of employment, training and working conditions.

71. Since 1985, most governments have taken minimal measures to create job opportunities for women in the formal sector because of the effect of structural adjustment policies to reduce workers in the public sector in order to curb inflation and other economic factors. In Senegal, recent measures established include full salary (to working mothers) during maternity leave and the national employment fund which is responsible for rehabilitation and placement of women in jobs.

72. At the decision-making level, there has been an increase in the number of women holding decision-making/key positions in the public and private sector. Table 7 gives an indication of this trend.

73. In the services sector, there is a marked improvement in female em nt in most African countries eventhough the proportion of women profe is has increased less rapidly than that of men. Table 2 on the econ ly active population in the services sector (1981-1987) shows that in Cape Verde, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritius and Sey , more than 50 per cent of the economically active population is fema by comparison, tables 1, 2 and 3 on the economically active population (sectoral distribution in agriculture, services and industry (19 respectively, show that the participation of women in Africa as a highest in agriculture and lowest in industry. However, the situatio from subregion to subregion and from country to country within the sub . For example, table 3 shows that women in North Africa are more econ ly active in the industrial sector (e.g., Tunisia and Morocco) than Central Africa.

74. According to research (research on women and scientific profe is in Africa) recently undertaken in Swaziland and Sierra Leone, it wa nd that within the major and larger industrial establishments there a ry few women employed as professionals in scientific and technical areas.

75. Employment in the informal sector continues to play a key rol e hope for survival for a greater majority of women and the urba r. According to a recent issue of UNDP News (August 1988), 19/ women i is account for 65 per cent ownership and 55 per cent employment in the i l, small-scale enterprise sector. In many countries, particularly in West , a great number of women are involved in the informal sector, usu in small-scale projects.

76. INSTRAW's programme on women in the informal sector attempts to ic ways of measuring women's activities in this area. An accurate ev on of the activities of women in the informal sector will improve the ll measurement of their participation in the labour force, reveal the in or underestimated unemployment of women, and throw light on their cont on to the national economic product. 20/ INSTRAW is organizing a mee in 1989 to examine the impact of macro-economic policy on women in the l sector.

77. As mentioned earlier, ATRCW has initiated and is implementing - funded project in the informal sector in Zambia, the Gambia, the Co d Burkina Faso. National workshops in these countries and semi t subregional and regional levels will be conducted in 1989 and 1990.

78. In general, although many countries (such as Senegal, Egypt, C in and Botswana to mention just a few) have initiated and are involved in - generating activities, e.g., handicrafts, gardening, textiles, etc t many of these projects are centred on charitable activities. Proj in the informal sector should prove themselves more viable, economicall d and self-supporting. In some instances, it has been reported tha n who own businesses are confronted with numerous economic constraint h reduce the viability of their business.

Table 1. ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION: SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION - FEMALE AGRICULTURE (in percentage)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
NORTH AFRICA	43.85	43.10	42.35	41.70	41.10	40.35	39.65
Algeria	9.95	9.45	8.90	8.40	7.90	7.40	6.90
Egypt	18.95	18.25	17.70	17.10	16.60	16.15	15.55
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	38.20	36.55	34.85	33.20	31.50	30.95	30.50
Morocco	34.65	34.30	33.95	33.65	33.40	32.75	32.10
Sudan	86.40	85.70	85.05	84.35	83.75	82.80	82.05
Tunisia	31.75	30.40	29.10	27.75	26.40	25.60	24.80
WEST AFRICA	73.45	73.10	72.70	72.40	72.05	71.75	71.25
Benin	73.60	72.80	71.85	71.15	70.35	69.35	68.50
Burkina Faso	86.10	85.95	85.75	85.55	85.30	85.05	84.80
Cape Verde	30.00	29.05	28.15	27.25	25.70	25.00	24.30
Côte d'Ivoire	74.45	73.85	73.30	72.75	72.30	71.70	71.15
Gambia	92.85	92.65	92.50	92.30	92.20	91.95	91.[illegible]
Ghana	51.55	51.00	50.45	49.90	49.40	48.80	48.25
Guinea	87.60	86.95	86.45	85.80	85.10	84.45	83.75
Guinea-Bissau	91.75	91.55	91.40	91.20	91.05	90.90	90.75
Liberia	85.60	85.00	84.00	83.45	82.55	82.05	81.55
Mali	78.15	77.85	77.65	77.40	77.05	76.65	76.40
Mauritania	86.30	85.95	85.55	85.20	84.80	84.30	83.80
Niger	93.95	93.65	93.45	93.15	92.90	92.70	92.55
Nigeria	68.80	68.55	68.30	68.10	67.90	67.60	67.25
Senegal	89.70	89.45	89.20	89.00	88.70	88.60	88.35
Sierra Leone	81.50	81.05	80.55	80.15	79.60	79.15	78.75
Togo	67.35	66.95	66.50	66.15	65.90	65.45	65.20
CENTRAL AFRICA	91.05	90.85	90.65	90.50	90.25	90.05	89.80
Burundi	97.85	97.85	97.80	97.80	97.80	97.80	97.80
Cameroon	77.45	77.00	76.45	76.05	75.55	75.00	74.35
Central African Republic	74.25	73.90	73.15	72.80	72.25	71.85	71.30
Chad	86.65	86.40	86.00	85.70	85.35	85.05	84.70
Congo	85.95	85.75	85.25	85.10	84.60	84.15	83.40
Equatorial Guinea	84.90	84.35	83.75	83.20	82.60	82.65	81.45
Gabon	87.40	86.75	86.15	85.50	84.90	84.30	83.65
Rwanda	97.90	97.90	97.85	97.85	97.80	97.70	97.60
Sao Tomé and Principe	76.80	76.05	75.30	74.55	73.80	73.05	72.30
Zaire	94.55	94.40	94.20	94.00	93.90	93.70	93.50

Table 1 (cont'd)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	90.75	88.35	88.00	87.65	87.30	86.95	86.55
Angola	88.95	88.70	88.50	88.25	88.00	87.65	87.30
Botswana	84.95	84.20	83.40	82.65	81.90	81.00	80.15
Comoros	87.20	86.80	86.40	86.05	85.70	85.10	84.55
Djibouti	88.10	87.85	87.55	87.25	87.00	86.70	86.45
Ethiopia	84.55	84.15	83.75	83.35	82.90	82.50	82.05
Kenya	85.80	85.50	84.90	84.50	84.10	83.65	83.10
Lesotho	88.95	88.40	87.85	87.30	86.75	86.05	85.35
Madagascar	93.20	92.70	92.50	92.20	91.80	91.25	90.75
Malawi	93.65	93.35	93.00	92.75	92.45	92.20	91.75
Mauritius	30.20	29.45	28.65	27.90	27.10	26.45	25.80
Mozambique	97.00	96.95	96.90	96.85	96.80	96.75	96.70
Seychelles	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.15	7.15
Somalia	89.00	88.65	88.20	87.85	87.40	86.65	86.15
Swaziland	82.15	81.75	81.45	81.10	80.75	80.25	79.70
Tanzania, United Republic of	91.50	91.15	90.80	90.45	90.15	89.85	89.45
Uganda	88.10	87.50	86.90	86.30	85.80	85.35	84.80
Zambia	87.55	86.35	85.15	83.95	82.75	82.50	82.30
Zimbabwe	81.75	81.50	81.20	80.95	80.65	80.40	80.05
TOTAL AFRICA	80.75	80.25	79.85	79.45	79.05	78.65	78.15

Source: ECA secretariat.

Table 2. ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION: SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION - FEMALE SERVICES (in percentage)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
NORTH AFRICA	35.15	35.55	35.95	36.25	36.50	37.00	37.45
Algeria	67.85	68.05	68.30	68.45	68.65	68.85	69.05
Egypt	63.85	64.20	64.40	64.65	64.80	64.95	65.25
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	48.25	49.55	50.90	52.20	53.55	53.70	53.85
Morocco	31.15	31.30	31.50	31.65	31.75	32.00	32.25
Sudan	9.50	10.00	10.45	10.95	11.35	12.05	12.50
Tunisia	22.50	22.85	23.25	23.75	24.50	24.75	24.95
WEST AFRICA	20.40	20.60	20.85	21.05	21.30	21.50	21.90
Benin	23.00	23.75	24.55	25.20	25.85	26.70	27.45
Burkina Faso	10.35	10.45	10.60	10.70	10.90	11.10	11.30
Cape Verde	47.90	48.70	49.40	50.15	51.50	52.05	52.55
Côte d'Ivoire	20.45	20.95	21.30	21.80	22.15	22.60	23.05
Gambia	4.85	5.05	5.15	5.30	5.40	5.60	5.80
Ghana	32.30	32.65	33.00	33.40	33.70	34.05	34.45
Guinea	7.15	7.50	7.80	8.20	8.60	8.90	9.25
Guinea-Bissau	6.55	6.65	6.70	6.80	6.85	6.95	7.05
Liberia	12.85	13.40	14.35	14.85	15.70	16.15	16.60
Mali	18.40	18.65	18.80	19.00	19.30	19.65	19.85
Mauritania	10.35	10.50	10.70	10.80	10.85	11.20	11.55
Niger	5.90	6.20	6.40	6.65	6.90	7.10	7.25
Nigeria	24.40	24.55	24.65	24.75	24.85	25.05	25.35
Senegal	7.95	8.15	8.35	8.50	8.70	8.80	9.00
Sierra Leone	14.80	15.15	15.55	15.80	16.25	16.60	16.90
Togo	25.20	25.50	25.85	26.10	26.25	26.65	26.85
CENTRAL AFRICA	7.25	7.40	7.55	7.65	7.90	8.05	8.25
Burundi	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Cameroon	19.35	19.60	20.00	20.20	20.50	20.80	21.30
Central African Republic	22.15	22.45	23.15	23.45	23.90	24.20	24.60
Chad	12.25	12.45	12.75	13.00	13.30	13.55	13.85
Congo	12.30	12.45	12.85	12.95	13.35	13.70	14.30
Equatorial Guinea	12.25	12.65	13.05	13.45	13.85	14.25	14.65
Gabon	10.05	10.60	11.10	11.55	11.95	12.40	12.95
Rwanda	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.50	1.50	1.55
Sao Tomé and Principe	19.40	20.05	20.65	21.30	21.90	22.55	23.15
Zaire	3.95	4.05	4.25	4.40	4.45	4.60	4.75

Table 2 (cont'd)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	8.20	8.55	8.80	9.05	9.30	9.55	9.85
Angola	9.40	9.65	9.80	10.05	10.25	10.55	10.85
Botswana	12.95	13.60	14.15	14.75	15.30	16.00	16.65
Comoros	10.10	10.60	11.15	11.65	12.10	12.80	13.45
Djibouti	9.70	10.05	10.40	10.85	11.15	11.45	11.75
Ethiopia	9.10	9.30	9.45	9.65	9.85	10.00	10.25
Kenya	11.40	11.55	12.10	12.40	12.70	13.05	13.45
Lesotho	9.00	9.45	9.90	10.35	10.80	11.30	11.75
Madagascar	5.05	5.30	5.60	5.80	6.15	6.55	6.95
Malawi	4.00	4.15	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.60	4.85
Mauritius	56.70	57.35	58.00	58.65	59.35	59.85	60.30
Mozambique	2.20	2.20	2.25	2.30	2.30	2.35	2.40
Seychelles	85.05	84.00	82.90	81.85	80.75	79.70	78.60
Somalia	9.25	9.65	10.10	10.50	10.95	11.70	12.25
Swaziland	14.45	14.65	14.80	15.00	15.20	15.55	15.95
Tanzania, United Republic of	6.85	7.25	7.70	8.10	8.55	8.85	9.30
Uganda	9.85	10.35	10.80	11.30	11.65	12.00	12.40
Zambia	9.70	10.85	12.05	13.20	14.40	14.60	14.75
Zimbabwe	14.65	14.80	15.05	15.20	15.45	15.65	15.90
TOTAL AFRICA	14.15	14.50	15.05	15.05	15.35	15.60	15.95

Source: ECA secretariat.

Table 3. ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION: SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION - FEMALE INDUSTRY (in percentage)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
NORTH AFRICA	21.00	21.35	21.70	22.05	22.40	22.65	22.90
Algeria	22.20	22.50	22.80	23.15	23.45	23.75	24.05
Egypt	17.20	17.55	17.90	18.25	18.60	18.90	19.20
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	13.55	13.90	14.25	14.60	14.95	15.35	15.65
Morocco	34.20	34.40	34.55	34.70	34.85	35.25	35.65
Sudan	4.10	4.20	4.50	4.70	4.90	5.15	5.45
Tunisia	45.75	46.75	47.65	48.50	49.10	49.65	50.25
WEST AFRICA	6.15	6.30	6.40	6.55	6.65	6.75	6.85
Benin	3.40	3.45	3.60	3.65	3.80	3.95	4.05
Burkina Faso	3.55	3.60	3.65	3.75	3.80	3.85	3.90
Cape Verde	22.10	22.25	22.45	22.60	22.80	22.95	23.15
Côte d'Ivoire	5.10	5.20	5.40	5.45	5.55	5.70	5.80
Gambia	2.30	2.30	2.35	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50
Ghana	16.15	16.35	16.55	16.70	16.90	17.15	17.30
Guinea	5.25	5.55	5.75	6.00	6.30	6.65	7.00
Guinea-Bissau	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.15	2.20
Liberia	1.55	1.60	1.65	1.70	1.75	1.80	1.85
Mali	3.45	3.50	3.55	3.60	3.65	3.70	3.75
Mauritania	3.55	3.55	3.75	4.00	4.35	4.50	4.65
Niger	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
Nigeria	6.80	6.90	7.05	7.15	7.25	7.35	7.40
Senegal	2.35	2.40	2.45	2.50	2.55	2.60	2.65
Sierra Leone	3.70	3.80	3.90	4.05	4.15	4.25	4.35
Togo	7.45	7.55	7.65	7.75	7.85	7.90	7.95
CENTRAL AFRICA	1.70	1.75	1.80	1.85	1.85	1.90	1.95
Burundi	1.05	1.05	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Cameroon	3.20	3.40	3.55	3.75	3.95	4.20	4.35
Central African Republic	3.60	3.65	3.70	3.75	3.85	3.95	4.10
Chad	1.10	1.15	1.25	1.30	1.35	1.40	1.45
Congo	1.75	1.80	1.90	1.95	2.05	2.15	2.30
Equatorial Guinea	2.85	3.00	3.20	3.35	3.55	3.70	3.90
Gabon	2.55	2.65	2.75	2.95	3.15	3.30	3.40
Rwanda	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.70	0.70	0.75	0.80
Sao Tomé and Principe	3.80	3.90	4.05	4.15	4.30	4.40	4.55
Zaire	1.50	1.55	1.55	1.60	1.65	1.70	1.75

Table 3 (cont'd)

Subregion, country	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	3.05	3.10	3.20	3.30	3.40	3.50	3.60
Angola	1.65	1.65	1.70	1.70	1.75	1.80	1.85
Botswana	2.10	2.20	2.45	2.60	2.80	3.00	3.20
Comoros	2.70	2.60	2.45	2.30	2.20	2.10	2.00
Djibouti	2.20	2.10	2.05	1.90	1.85	1.85	1.80
Ethiopia	6.35	6.55	6.80	7.00	7.25	7.50	7.70
Kenya	2.80	2.95	3.00	3.10	3.20	3.35	3.45
Lesotho	2.05	2.15	2.25	2.35	2.45	2.65	2.90
Madagascar	1.75	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30
Malawi	2.35	2.50	2.70	2.85	3.05	3.20	3.40
Mauritius	13.10	13.20	13.35	13.45	13.55	13.70	13.90
Mozambique	0.80	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.90	0.90	0.90
Seychelles	7.85	8.90	10.00	11.05	12.15	13.20	14.30
Somalia	1.75	1.70	1.70	1.65	1.65	1.60	1.60
Swaziland	3.45	3.60	3.75	3.90	4.05	4.20	4.35
Tanzania, United Republic of	1.65	1.60	1.50	1.45	1.30	1.30	1.25
Uganda	2.05	2.15	2.30	2.40	2.55	2.65	2.80
Zambia	2.75	2.80	2.80	2.85	2.85	2.90	2.95
Zimbabwe	3.60	3.70	3.75	3.85	3.90	3.95	4.00
TOTAL AFRICA	5.10	5.25	5.35	5.50	5.60	5.75	5.90

Source: ECA secretariat.

B. Education and training

79. Education is a major factor in the modern economy that determines the level of participation of women in the various sectors of the economy. The modern economy demands that an individual has a certain level of education to obtain a reasonably well-paid occupation or to effectively take advantage of the various economic opportunities available. Women in Africa have been confronted with a low level of literacy which in many cases has been one of the major obstacles preventing them from participating fully in the development of their respective countries.

80. Nevertheless, over the last 10 years, there has been modest progress in the participation of female students at all levels of the school system, particularly at the primary school level. The increased enrolment of girls in primary school is largely the result of government development plans and the fact that education at the primary level is free in many countries of the region. In Botswana, for example, female students constitute over 50 per cent of the primary and junior secondary enrolments. In 1983, female

students in Botswana made up 53 per cent of the enrolment in Form III compared to 42 per cent in Form V and 40 per cent in university. 21/ In Swaziland, the ratio of girls enrolled in secondary school is equally high. In 1987, for example, 5,586 girls were enrolled in Form I as compared to 4,087 boys. 22/ However, the number of female students decreases at the higher secondary level and hence at university level because of the female dropout rate in most African countries. There are certain social and cultural factors that negatively affect female participation at higher levels of the school system, such as the increasing rate of teenage pregnancies in secondary schools and marriage which continue to contribute significantly to the high female dropout rate.

81. In the case of Botswana for example, in 1985, a total of 765 teenagers were reported to have dropped out of school, mainly due to pregnancy which alone accounted for 64 per cent of female dropouts and 52 per cent of all dropouts. 24/ Attrition rates among girls at all levels of education in Kenya have been reported to be very high. 25/ Pregnancy is one of the major factors contributing to this attrition. The high rate of female dropouts at all levels of the education system has also been observed in a recent study conducted in Sierra Leone. 26/

82. Table 4 shows the enrolment of students at the primary school level (1982-1986) while table 5 shows enrolment at the secondary level (1982-1985). As can be seen in table 4, enrolment of females in many countries in the region is close to 50 per cent while in other countries such as Botswana and Lesotho, female enrolment is more than 50 per cent of male enrolment. At the second level of education in countries such as Burkina Faso, the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Morocco and Tunisia, table 5 shows an increase of female enrolment close to 49 per cent, and even then enrolment is still low.

83. In Benin, the educational reform attaches special importance to the schooling of young girls. In this connection, a joint UNESCO/UNFPA project on "Education and its relevance to family life" is underway in schools. 27/

84. With respect to non-formal education, national literacy programmes in such African countries as Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, the Niger, Nigeria, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe have been the largest sustained adult education programmes with women being the majority of the participants. Efforts are being made to link these national literacy programmes with functional skills, income-generating activities and extension services.

85. In the area of science and technology, recent studies undertaken (in Kenya, Sierra Leone and Swaziland) on women and scientific professions have established the marginal representation of girls/women in science-based training programmes and professions. 28/ The main factors for this low representation according to the research findings are, among others:

(a) Social and cultural attitudes towards the education of girls, e.g., the belief that certain tasks are more suitable for men than for women;

Table 4. STUDENTS ENROLLED AT FIRST LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(in thousands)

Subregion, country	Males					Females				
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
NORTH AFRICA	8,309	8,561	8,693	8,987*	9,284*	5,865*	6,134	6,278	6,492*	6,714*
Algeria	1,867	1,914	1,946	1,991*	2,035*	1,375	1,423	1,469	1,502*	1,535*
Egypt	2,949	3,094	3,248	3,401*	3,560*	2,088	2,247	2,352	2,463*	2,578*
Libyan Arab Jamahariya	380	399	417	437*	454*	342	354	369	385*	402*
Morocco	1,521	1,536	1,415	1,430*	1,447*	922	931	864	876*	887*
Sudan	936	944	971	1,001*	1,030*	643	655	675	695*	716*
Tunisia	656	674	696*	727*	758*	495	524	549	571*	596*
WEST AFRICA	11,963	11,790	11,959*	12,202*	12,457*	8,691	8,807	8,906*	9,100*	9,301*
Benin	289	287	296	296	296	139	142	148	148*	159*
Burkina Faso	145	175	198	221*	246*	92	102	115	130*	145*
Cape Verde	28	28	29*	29*	30*	27	27	28*	28*	29*
Côte d'Ivoire	673	684	713	743*	775*	462	476	496*	517*	538
Gambia	34	38	41*	46*	52*	19	23	25	28*	31*
Ghana	887	930	825	827*	834*	688	723	640	650*	655*
Guinea	167	166	193	201*	207*	81	80	91	95*	97*
Guinea-Bissau	50	50	50*	50*	50*	24	25	26*	26*	26*
Liberia	155	163	171	180*	189*	95	100	105	110*	115*
Mali	187	188	190	192*	193*	109	111	112	113*	114*
Mauritania	65	68	72	75*	79*	42	44*	46*	48*	51*
Niger	157	167	175	183*	191*	88	94	98*	103*	108*
Nigeria	8,348	8,052	8,175*	8,297*	8,420*	6,307	6,332	6,423*	6,519*	6,616*
Senegal	273	298	320	336*	353*	180	198	213	234*	255*
Sierra Leone	208	218	230	242*	255*	143	151*	160*	168*	177*
Togo	297	278	281*	284*	287*	195	179	181*	183*	185*
CENTRAL AFRICA	4,717	4,849	5,029*	5,206*	5,404*	3,550	3,696	3,866*	4,018*	4,169*
Burundi	152	180	203	211*	219*	101	121	141	146*	153*
Cameroon	878	851	891	921*	960*	699	713	744	784*	819*
Central African Republic	176	192	203	215*	228*	95	99	105	111*	117*
Chad	197	204	209	218*	229*	72	75	79	81*	84*
Congo	217	229	236	243*	253*	206	214	223	234*	243*
Equatorial Guinea	26	32	34	36*	38*	24	30	32	34*	36*
Gabon	84	87	91	94*	98*	82	85	87	90*	94*
Rwanda	386	402	407	417*	428*	361	360	375*	385*	395
Sao Tomé and Principe	8	8	8	8*	8*	8	8	8*	8*	8*
Zaire	2,593	2,664	2,747	2,843*	2,943*	1,902	1,991	2,072*	2,145*	2,220*

Table 4 (cont'd)

Subregion, country	Males					Females				
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	11,371	11,553	11,982*	12,477*	12,970*	9,488	9,774	10,112*	10,620*	11,011*
Angola	642	666*	697*	729*	764*	536	567*	594*	622*	651*
Botswana	88	92	99	106	113*	99	106	111	117	123*
Comoros	38*	40*	43*	44*	47*	27	28	29	31*	32*
Djibouti	12	13	14*	15*	16*	9	9	10	11*	12*
Ethiopia	1,587	1,561	1,684*	1,721*	1,814*	924	937	949*	1,054*	1,112*
Kenya	2,179	2,250	2,269	2,435	2,513	2,006	2,074	2,111	2,268	2,331
Lesotho	119	126	131	139	142	159	164	166	175	177
Madagascar	884	885	935	957	1,004	783	817	863	883	926
Malawi	502	488	515	530*	550*	367	359	384	401*	415*
Mauritius	69	68	67	71	73	68	68	67	70	71
Mozambique	712	667	694*	726*	760*	535	496	523*	548*	573*
Seychelles	7	7	7	7*	7*	7	7	7	7*	7*
Somalia	142	142	143	144*	145*	77*	79*	80*	81*	82*
Swaziland	62	64	67	70*	74*	62	64	67	70*	74*
Tanzania	1,816	1,828	1,845	1,878*	1,911*	1,697	1,725	1,772*	1,804*	1,837*
Uganda	928	964	1,009	1,057*	1,107*	689	728	762*	797*	834*
Zambia	594	632	663	693*	726*	528	562	587*	615*	643
Zimbabwe	990	1,060	1,100	1,155*	1,204*	915	984	1,030	1,066*	1,111*
TOTAL AFRICA	36,360	36,753	37,663*	38,872*	40,115*	27,594	28,411	29,162*	30,230*	31,195*

Source: ECA secretariat.

Table 5. STUDENTS ENROLLED AT SECOND LEVEL OF EDUCATION
(number)

Subregion, country	Males				Females			
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1982	1983	1984	1985
NORTH AFRICA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Algeria	...	898,562	1,001,397*	1,128,961*	...	574,000	640,000*	722,000*
Egypt	1,890,000	1,953,000	...	...	1,199,000	1,249,000	...	...
Libyan Arab Jamahariya	199,626	...	...	...	141,000	...	...	...
Morocco	590,891	631,983	683,999	723,907	377,000	414,000	446,000	465,000
Sudan	273,814	297,981	302,698	...	182,000	209,000	219,000	...
Tunisia	221,550	238,712	253,044	274,050	134,000	149,000	166,000	184,000
WEST AFRICA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Benin	99,804*	87,958*	85,316	...	36,881	35,926	35,266	...
Burkina Faso	21,635	23,567	28,498	35,574	10,970	12,337	15,345	17,991
Cape Verde	...	2,815*	...	...	...	1,876*	...	...
Côte d'Ivoire	171,406	176,387	186,761	...	80,720	75,030	80,040*	...
Gambia	8,639	10,028	11,111	11,172	3,785	4,402	4,802	4,746
Ghana	755,710	471,946	468,551	512,283*	273,855	281,719	282,641	313,980*
Guinea	60,800	70,433	73,964	68,261	25,968	27,286	27,157	24,493*
Guinea-Bissau	6,754	7,816	7,378	...	1,678	1,818	2,006	...
Liberia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mali	50,726	82,426	...	...	19,727*	20,792	...	...
Mauritania	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Niger	32,017*	33,032*	...	...	13,077*	14,156*	...	...
Nigeria	2,525,044	2,590,591*	...	...	967,142*	961,525*	...	...
Senegal	75,581	76,357	81,358	...	36,356	37,204	40,138	...
Sierra Leone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Togo	89,302	76,902	69,106	...	29,804	25,084	21,884	...
CENTRAL AFRICA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burundi	13,410	14,358	15,736	...	6,507	7,066	8,248	...
Cameroon	174,580	186,643	203,854	...	99,060	109,895	124,569	...
Central African Republic	40,972	...	42,997	36,665	14,396	...	15,107	12,882
Chad	...	...	38,667	...	...	...	6,945	...
Congo	123,732	118,401	116,435	125,725	85,933	83,182	86,473	96,908
Equatorial Guinea	3,625*	...	...	...	743*	...	...	...
Gabon	19,657	21,456	...	...	13,035	14,704	...	...
Rwanda	9,082	9,764	10,852	11,898	5,148	4,997	5,691	6,235
Sao Tomé and Principe	3,593	3,668	...	...	2,303	2,436	...	...
Zaire	1,276,885	1,541,526	...	...	494,202	610,374	...	...

Table 5 (cont'd)

Subregion, country	Males				Females			
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1982	1983	1984	1985
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA		...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Angola	...	...	...	...	55,000*	...	...	...
Botswana	..	11,141	14,000	16,981	...	14,000	17,000	19,000
Comoros	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Djibouti	3,744	4,049	4 197	4,323	2,185	2,282	...	2,718
Ethiopia	372,297	373,691	399,801	399,865	163,000	206,000	229,000	256,000
Kenya	267,435	308,108	3[illegible],853	271,068*	182,000	209,000	213,000	166,000*
Lesotho	11,162	12,327	13,422	14,372	17,000	20,000	20,000	21,000
Madagascar	...	...	213,013*	...	...	...	212,000*	...
Malawi	14,626	15,316	17,413	...	6,000	6,000	7,000	...
Mauritius	40,984	41,233	40,105	38,319	37,000	37,000	35,000	34,000
Mozambique	76,841	84,374	95,364	104,490	32,000	37,000	41,000	47,000
Seychelles	1.375	1,671	1,941	1,078	1,793	1,896	1,948	1,997
Somalia	43,008	41,821	...	...	20,934	21,434	...	...
Swaziland	...	...	...	...	13,000	14,000	...	...
Tanzania	51,695	53,173	54,895*	60,412*	27,000	29,000	30,000*	34,000*
Uganda	97,412	...	...	...	43,000	...	...	...
Zambia	71,273	...	...	...	33,000	...	...	...
Zimbabwe	133,852	187,397	...	...	94,000	129,000	...	...
TOTAL AFRICA	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: ECA secretariat.

(b) Inadequate infrastructure and facilities (inadequately equipped science laboratories), especially in girls' schools;

(c) The streamlining into practical and non-practical subjects which occurs in many schools also prevents girls from taking subjects which provide an early introduction to the use of measuring devices, simple calculations relating to practical work, and to other laboratory manipulative skills which are essential in building confidence to tackle a subject like physics; and

(d) All three case studies reported the poor performance of girls in junior and secondary schools in science subjects, particularly in maths, physics and chemistry.

86. The above factors imply that fewer girls than boys are enrolled in science subjects. It is also implied that the majority of girls and women are cut off at an early age from a wide range of careers and interests in science-based training programmes. Many girls leaving school operate in an environment full of machinery and labour-saving devices. They should be exposed to science so that they can effectively participate in science- and technological-based activities.

87. The present approach to science education could therefore be enriched by ensuring that girls are encouraged to take science subjects and technical subjects should not be regarded as an option for the academically less gifted. In a world dominated so heavily by technology, there should be a greater integration between science and technical subjects that could produce a curriculum which ensures that girls take geometrical drawing along with other science subjects.

C. Law and legislation

88. The United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women is, in essence, an international bill of rights for women. As of October 1986, 91 countries had acceded to or ratified the Convention. 29/ The Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies urge (paragraph 60) member States to sign the Convention and to take all the necessary steps to ensure that they ratify or accede to it. Table 6 below shows the number of African States that have now ratified the Convention:

Table 6. COUNTRIES RATIFYING THE CONVENTION
(position as at 1 September 1987)

Part of world	Number ratifying before 28/7/85	Number ratifying after 28/7/85	Number not ratifying
All Africa	17 (33%)	8 (16%)	26 (51%)
Rest of world	61 (51%)	8 (7%)	51 (42%)
Total world	78 (46%)	16 (7%)	77 (45%)

Source: United Nations, Human Rights: Status of International Instruments 1987.

89. Table 6 shows that 49 per cent of African States have now ratified the Convention, compared to 58 per cent in the rest of the world and that 16 per cent of the African States have ratified in the two years following the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies which may be an indication of a larger impact of the Strategies in Africa.

90. In view of the above, what is required now is the implementation of the Convention by, for example, revising some laws such as the marriage, employment and education acts, etc., to accommodate women's equality issues. Some governments are already doing this by establishing law review commissions and/or committees.

91. The Cameroon Government for instance has signed the Convention while ratification is in progress. Some legislation has been modified in the field of demography, health, education, training, employment and agriculture to adapt to the requirements for the advancement of women. However, the Government of Niger has neither signed nor ratified the Convention even though it shows a willingness to do so. 30/

92. In Botswana, a Law Reform Committee has been established to look into the law and legislation in particular as they relate to women. The Women's Guide to the Law: an outline of how the law affects every woman and her family in Botswana has also been established.

93. In general, it has been realized that the majority of women in Africa are not aware of their legal rights. In addition to establishing law review commissions and/or committees as has been done in Botswana, Ghana, Malawi, Mauritius, Nigeria, and the United Republic of Tanzania, action-oriented strategies with a view to changing the socio-economic and legal position of women need to be developed.

D. Women at the decision-making level and legislation

94. The visible and public exercise of power by women is controversial in many societies. In most African countries, very few women are in politics. Political participation is a key issue for women because it is an indicator of their status as well as a tool to improve their condition in society. In many African countries, women have the right to vote and they do vote; the mere act of voting, however, cannot be regarded as a measure of political consciousness or participation. In many instances, poor rural and urban women are mobilized during political campaigns to vote. In such situations, women vote in high numbers but they do not participate in any other political activities in particular at the decision-making level.

95. Although there has been an increase in the number of women entering the arena of decision-making and power, their success has, however not been easy. They had and still have to struggle against considerable odds in order to succeed in politics as well as getting into key positions in the government, parastatal organizations and institutions. There are still very few women in those areas of activity to which access is, in most cases, restricted to those who hold higher academic qualifications. This situation has limited and continues to limit women's access to economic, social and political power. Thus, for instance, it is still very difficult for women to gain a foothold in those professions which bestow recognition and influence, especially when they are financially highly rewarding.

96. According to the information received from Gabon, Kenya, Madagas the Niger, Senegal, Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zam politically, women are represented in various organs and committees the village/district level to the central government level. Besides t participation in political parties, committees, etc., more and more w are being appointed to key positions both in the public and private sec In Senegal, for example, women participate in all levels of decision-mak governmental, parliamentary, diplomatic and community. 31/

97. In the United Republic of Tanzania, for example, in the general elec of 1985, 25 out of 244 seats were filled by women members of parlia In order to encourage women to exercise their political rights and to enlig the general mass on the importance of involving women in politics, the P and Government decided to reserve 15 parliamentary seats for women. 32/ Madagascar, a good number of women occupy key positions at the decision-ma level in legislative bodies as well as in elective posts. 33/

98. Between 1981 and 1987, the mayor of the economic capital of Gabon a woman. In addition, 6.25 per cent of the permanent secretaries, 9.4 cent directors, 10 per cent of the first secretaries in embassies, 12.5 cent of the district attorneys. 34/ Further details on women decision-making bodies and in positions of responsibility in Gabon is pres in table 7.

99. In general, although the number of women in high positions and at decision-making level has increased, the situation is still unsatisfactory. Table 7 gives a summary of the number of women in positions in the countries for which information was available.

V. PROBLEMS/CONSTRAINTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

A. Problems/constraints

100. Based on the ATRCW missions undertaken and information received various countries, problems and constraints such as structure, policy measu human and financial resources, information/data have been observed.

(a) Structure

101. Structure is one of the major problems faced by WID progra Structural problems are seen in terms of the location of women's af units in ministries. In most cases, national machineries are not lo at a high central position within the government bureaucracy and inadequately financed and usually understaffed.

(b) Policy measures

102. Many countries have not yet adopted a national policy on wom development which is necessary for action towards enhancing the particip of women in national development.

Table 7. WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING POSITIONS IN DIFFERENT PUBLIC SERVICE SECTORS

Country	Minister/ Deputy Ministers	Diplomat/ Ambassadors	Perm.Sec Deputy Perm Sec	Commis-sioners	Director/ Deputy Directors and Managers	Judges Magistrates	Members of Parliament
Botswana (1987)	1		1 Deputy			2	
Gabon	5 Deputies	1			1		25 National Assembly 75 Regional Assemblies
Madagascar	1				1		1
Niger	1				3		
Senegal	3			1	9 pub.sec. 4 priv.sec.		18 2 Vice Chai Women
Swaziland (1986)				4 Under-Sec.	190 priv. sector 1025 pub. sector		4
Tanzania	4 1 Deputy	1	1	3	3		25
Uganda	2 3 Deputies	3	2 6 Under-Sec.	1	26 priv. & Para-statal sec.	2 4 Chief Magistrates	2

Source: Responses received from the countries on the ECA questionnaire and other communications.

(c) Information data

103. There is lack of data on women on which to assess the participation of women and in their contribution to national development. Accordingly, the available data is not disaggregated. For purposes of influencing planning on gender issues, the statistical data base and information systems are important entry points. Gender disaggregated data and analysis based on their information gives a concrete and objective basis for advocating gender responsiveness in planning.

B. Suggestions/recommendations

104. Based on the problems and constraints outlined above and within the context of this paper, the following suggestions are advanced for governments and agencies concerned and involved in WID considerations:

(a) Education and training

(i) attrition rates among girls at all levels of education are very high with pregnancy as a major contributing factor. There is a need for government policy and programmes to rehabilitate young unmarried school girls;

(ii) access to science- and technology-based training programmes should be provided for girls;

(b) Structural adjustment programmes

(i) measures to reduce the negative effects of adjustment on women and policies which can compensate its adverse impact are needed. For instance in employment, jobs (e.g., in the services) where women predominate should be protected and maintained;

(ii) government should ensure the participation of national machinery in the early stages of policy formulation and implementation;

(c) Employment

(i) improvement programmes for women in the informal sector should be developed emphasizing reconstruction of physical facilities for the improvement of the work environment and access to productive facilities such as credit, marketing and training;

(d) Agriculture

Governments and agencies should consider enhancing the role of women in agriculture by providing:

(i) appropriate labour and time-saving devices to cater for all agricultural activities such as ploughing, weeding, harvesting, transporting, preserving and processing of food;

(ii) access to land and training in agricultural extension work;

(iii) farm implements, fertilizers, high-quality seeds and agricultural extension services in order to improve the input/output ratio;

(e) Health and nutrition

Governments should increase the level of participation of women during policy formulation of family health programmes as they are the key implementors and beneficiaries of these policies;

(f) Women at the decision-making level

(i) leadership training programmes to prepare women for taking up political responsibilities in position of high standing should be organized and provided for. Placing women in the mainstream of development should be a major objective of the government;

(ii) there is a need for increasing the representation of women in local level development committees as well as equipping them to effectively influence decisions;

(g) National policy on women in development

Women's visibility in national development plans should be a priority. Hence, national development strategies should be developed taking into consideration clearly structured production systems, allocation of national resources to basic production sectors, and policy of action aimed at involving women in national planning exercises;

(h) Data/information

Not enough information and data on the situation of women is available in most countries. In this regard, the following need to be considered:

(i) national central statistical offices should carry out a survey to assess women's contribution to national development;

(ii) national machineries should work in close collaboration with professional men and women in the mass media (radio and television) to sensitize the WID concept and dissemination of information on WID;

(iii) national machineries should develop information networks with government ministries, training and research institutes and non-governmental organizations;

(iv) research on gender issues should be undertaken and findings disseminated to users;

(v) national machineries should develop a mechanism for monitoring, reviewing and appraising the implementation of the Strategies;

(vi) development of a data bank on WID at the national level should be given priority consideration; and

(vii) statistical offices and other structures should be strengthened so that they can collect and analyse gender disaggregated data with policy and planning implications.

C. Conclusions

105. Since 1985 and within the framework of the Strategies, some social and economic changes in favour of women in most countries in Africa have been to some extent apparent in different sectors. Governments have increasingly recognized the significant contribution of women to national development as evidenced by the efforts made by some to strengthen the women's national machineries and/or women's affairs units in the ministries in which they are located. Zimbabwe and Uganda for example have created ministries in charge of women's affairs.

106. The implementation of the Strategies, however, has been slow because of various factors such as financial and human resources, lack of national policy and commitments by some governments to WID programmes.

107. Nevertheless, even if it is an exceedingly slow process, changes have occurred in various spheres of development. In the employment sector, there is an undeniable tendency for women to move into the professional categories which were, until only recently, occupied almost exclusively by men. In education and training, there have been an increase of girls' enrolment at all levels of the education system. For instance, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland are reported to have the highest female enrolment at both primary and secondary levels in Africa. However, one setback for girls is their low enrolment in science-based training programmes.

108. At the decision-making level, Gabon, Mauritius, Senegal, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda have introduced measures to increase the participation of women in key responsible positions both in the public and private sectors. The situation, however, is still unsatisfactory.

109. Much indeed still remains to be done, but the essential thing is that governments have to make crucial commitments if they are to effectively implement the Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000 and to ensure the changing socio-economic conditions of women.

FOOTNOTES

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11/ Cameroon response to ECA/ATRCW questionnaire, June 1988.

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29/ Niger response to ECA/ATRCW questionnaire.

30/ ECA/MULPOC/NIA/87/V/WD, March 1987.

31/ Tanzania response to ECA/ATRCW questionnaire.

32/ Madagascar response to ECA/ATRCW questionnaire.

33/ Gabon response to ECA/ATRCW questionnaire.